



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

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

## District 61

December 2011 – The Leader, Issue 3



**De joyeuses fêtes à tous!  
Happy Holidays!**



*Joyeux Noël 2011  
L'importance de Toastmasters  
dans ma vie"*

**Nous nous inspirons!  
On nous encourage de  
briller de tous feux!  
Enthousiame,  
éducation et énergie!  
Les amis partageant  
leur temps et leurs  
talents!**

*Puissent bonheur et allégresse  
remplir vos coeurs en ce temps  
de réjouissances!*



*By Lynne Zander*



*Merry Christmas 2011  
What Toastmasters means to  
me:*

**Camaraderie!  
Helping each other  
Reach for the stars!  
Inspiring positive  
change!  
Sharing our  
Time and talents to  
Mentor and motivate  
others!  
Asking for less than we  
give!  
Spending quality time  
with special friends!**



*Happy Holidays  
By Lynne Zander*



Links to youtube videos from conference

<http://youtube/lyGLZW9Sqrq> - Lavern

[http://youtube/naySKylbg\\_Q](http://youtube/naySKylbg_Q) - Laura

<http://youtube/pFCOogm141K> - Francine

[http://youtube/HOTmOzu\\_FRI](http://youtube/HOTmOzu_FRI) - Ed

<http://youtube/NwxYMGH3Csw> - Sylvain

Quel weekend fabuleux, débordante de talents venant de partout. La ponctualité était au rendez-vous: j'ai particulièrement apprécié la soirée du Banquet. Juste assez de temps pour les événements formels, comme l'accueil des DTM. Ensuite le souper a été servi et complété avant 9hpm, laissant une bonne place pour la danse. Samedi étant chargé d'émotions et de tâches essentielles, la danse nous a permis de célébrer tout ce succès.

Et une finale surprenante et enjouée, dimanche! Bref, un weekend rempli de surprises, orchestré par une équipe du tonnerre! et des sourires, si invitants. Je me souviendrai que ce succès s'est produit, surtout grâce à la fière participation de chaque toastmaster,

la présence des gens est irremplaçable. Bravo à tous.

Francine Fortin ACB, ALB, club Les Terrasses Gatineau

I lived the most beautiful experience, at the fall conference. It was extremely well organised; every event was right on time, I especially appreciated the timing of the Banquet. We had lot of time to enjoy all the most formal parts, such as awarding the new DTMs. Then, such delicious food! And, finally, plenty of time to enjoy dancing, which is so important, since the Saturday is particularly charged with duties, emotions, and great communications. Thanks to all the smiles throughout the weekend. Our wonderful talented Toastmasters of the district had lots of time to share with us, which I appreciated very much. I also liked the keynote speakers from out of the district.

It has been an opportunity for me also to discover friendships with colleagues from Quebec city, since they shared my house with me. Good laughs, good supper, I would repeat the experience anytime. I am also grateful to a certain Spirit that presented to me my dearest friend, Ed Nicholson. Any great surprise can occur during those weekends.

I am looking forward to the spring conference. Thanks to all colleagues for continuing to believe in the great gifts that those conferences bring to all participants. I encourage all Toastmasters to get involved in those weekends, a very valuable experience, enriched with the presence of everyone.

Les conférences Toastmasters font partie de mes habitudes. Depuis le jour où Velma Latmore m'a « encouragé » à aller à une conférence, je ne cesse d'y retourner. Si je disais que les ateliers m'encouragent à y retourner, ce serait vrai. Si je disais que j'aime les concours, ce serait vrai. Si je disais que j'aime les repas des hôtels, ce serait vrai (mais pas aussi vrai que « j'aime la cuisine de Martine »). Ce qui me fait retourner à Toastmasters plus qu'autre chose c'est de revoir les anciens amis et les visages familiers. Mes amis continuent à vieillir (pas moi) et les visages familiers s'arrondissent chaque année. Plus qu'autre chose, ce qui me fait retourner aux conférences c'est parce que je considère les membres de Toastmasters comme mes meilleurs amis.

I make Toastmasters conferences a habit. Ever since Velma Latmore first "encouraged" me to go to a conference, I keep going back. If I said that workshops brought me back, it would be true. If I said that I love the contests, it would be true. If I said that I enjoy hotel meals, it would be true (but not as true as 'I love Martine's cooking'). What keep me returning to Toastmasters more than anything else is seeing old friends and familiar faces. My friends keep getting older (I am not) and the familiar faces become more plentiful every year. More than anything else, what brings me back to conferences time-after-time is that I can count members of

Toastmasters among my best friends.

Craig Senior, ACS, CC

## Leading the A-Team for the District 61 Fall Conference

By Laura Gagné, conference Co-Chair

I attended my first conference in 2007 with my husband, Sylvain. We were asked to run the banner parade, and this began our love affair with conferences. We have never missed one since, and have worked at every one of them, either as part of the organizing committee or as volunteers at the event. We believe you get much more out of a conference when you give your time to help make it a success. When Beverley asked us if we would be interested in putting together the Fall Conference, we said yes right away. Here was an opportunity to give something positive and exciting to the District. After we thought about what we had volunteered for, we realized that we were going to need to find people of great experience and talent if we were going to succeed. We chose the members of our team very carefully, asking people mainly from previous conference committees that we had served with over the years. We also included a few new faces because we believe that you need to continually expand the pool of people with experience for future conferences.

[http://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_type=videos&search\\_query=toastmasters+district+61&search\\_sort=video\\_date\\_uploaded&uni=3](http://www.youtube.com/results?search_type=videos&search_query=toastmasters+district+61&search_sort=video_date_uploaded&uni=3)  
Conference videos

Our key people were the most veteran members of our committee. I think it is necessary to have very experienced people in positions such as facilities and AV, registration, minute-by-minute (scheduling), and volunteer coordinator, since these are the jobs that can make or break the conference, depending on how well they are done. We knew that the people in those roles were more capable than we were, so we had nothing to worry about. We also asked the chairs of our favourite conference (the Pirates) to serve as our mentors. I think every conference chair needs a mentor. We certainly needed ours. At our first committee meeting we asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell us what they felt was the most positive experience they had at previous conferences. We made a list of the best ideas previous conference committees had and made sure we duplicated their success. Every member of our team contributed a great deal to shaping the success of our conference. Our goal was to draw on everyone's strength so that the whole team would be stronger and I believe we met this goal. Our meetings were fun and we all remained friends. Many of us are involved in the next conference because we have bonded like a family of like-minded conference junkies. I think this conference was a tremendous success, but I say

that with humility. It wasn't because of our leadership, but because of the talent and dedication of our team. If I have learned one thing about leadership, it is this: let leaders lead. Remove any obstacles that might prevent them from doing their jobs, then get out of the way. If you surround yourself with winners, you can't help but succeed. Certainly, my hat is off to the amazing members of my team. They are all super stars!



Links to photos of the conference:

[https://picasaweb.google.com/101176289760820840378/FallConference2011?authkey=Gv1sRqCMv9\\_qLWnPeddA&feat=email#](https://picasaweb.google.com/101176289760820840378/FallConference2011?authkey=Gv1sRqCMv9_qLWnPeddA&feat=email#)

[http://picasaweb.google.ca/FrankJSMB/D61\\_Fall\\_Conf\\_2011#](http://picasaweb.google.ca/FrankJSMB/D61_Fall_Conf_2011#)

[http://www.togetherforfamilies.com/en/AA\\_PhotoFORME1201111273.php](http://www.togetherforfamilies.com/en/AA_PhotoFORME1201111273.php)

## Leverage what Toastmasters Offers



By Beverley Miranda

There are a few more days and hours to wrap up this year and look back at the year 2011 that was. In Toastmasters District 61 much happened : On a high note we ended the year 2010-2011 as Distinguished under our Immediate Past District Governor Lise Blondin, DTM leadership. We started a new Toastmaster year 2011-2012 and already completed 6 months! We have a new slate of district officers, we have a new Toastmaster Brand : Where Leaders are Made, and we had a slight fee increase - but the Toastmaster value is priceless and we should all leverage what Toastmasters offers. The icing on the cake was the District 61 Conference "Hit Your Stride". What a gift this conference was - it was a seamless creation. The behind the scenes work took countless hours, days, weeks, and months of planning that went towards making this present a priceless experience. The weekend was the contribution of skills, talents, dedication to excellence and service, and vision for a great experience. If you attended count yourself lucky, if you did not get a chance to attend, do not worry we have another one in April entitled "Will Works Wonders" so please be sure to get your tickets in January 2012. We kick-start our New Year with training and

great topics at every Training and Learning Institute (TLI).

**We have lots in store for the months ahead so visit our website [www.tm61.org](http://www.tm61.org)**

We close this year with a deficit in our clubs and membership and our educationals but I know, collectively, we will gain momentum on making our District No. 1 in the world with the strongest and most 20+ clubs! May your holiday be filled with laughter and light, family and friends and everything good and great in the new year 2012. Take this time to reflect on the year gone by and look forward to a bright tomorrow where you can leverage what Toastmasters offers in your personal life, your community, your career, and your family. Be safe and enjoy!

Tirer profit de ce que vous offre Toastmasters

Il ne reste que quelques jours et quelques heures avant la fin de l'année. Profitons-en pour y jeter un dernier regard. Ici, au District 61 de Toastmasters, il s'en est passé des choses : notamment, nous avons terminé l'année 2010-2011 en tant que club remarquable grâce au Leadership de Lise Blondin, DTM, notre plus récente gouverneure de District. Nous ne faisons que commencer l'année 2011-2012 de Toastmasters et nous avons déjà accompli 6 mois de travail. Nous avons de nouveaux dirigeants de district, nous avons un nouveau slogan « Toastmasters, la pépinière des leaders », et nous avons une légère hausse de tarif... Cependant, ce qu'offre Toastmasters est d'une valeur inestimable; il faut savoir en

tirer profit. La cerise sur le sundae, c'était la conférence du District 61, « triomphez avec éclat ». Quelle merveilleuse conférence, quelle réussite en matière d'organisation. En coulisses, il a fallu des heures, des jours, des semaines et des mois de planification afin de donner lieu cette expérience si plaisante. Une belle fin de semaine rendue possible grâce aux talents, aux compétences et à l'engagement à l'excellence et au service de qualité, ainsi qu'à la vision d'en faire une expérience mémorable. Si vous y avez participé, considérez-vous chanceux, sinon, ne vous inquiétez pas, il y aura une autre conférence en avril intitulée « votre volonté fait des merveilles » pour laquelle vous pourrez acheter vos billets en janvier. Nous commencerons la nouvelle année avec des formations et des exposés dans le cadre des sessions de leadership Toastmasters (SLT). Nous avons préparé bien des choses pour les mois à venir, alors jetez un coup d'œil sur notre site web à l'adresse [www.tm61.org](http://www.tm61.org), ou lisez notre bulletin de district « The Leader ».

Nous terminons l'année avec un déficit en matière de nombre de clubs, de membres et d'activités de formation. Toutefois, je suis certaine que collectivement, nous pourrions reprendre un élan afin de hisser notre District au premier rang mondial, avec le plus grand nombre de clubs dynamiques qui ont plus de 20 membres! Je vous souhaite de passer le temps des fêtes dans la lumière et la joie, auprès de vos proches et de vos amis, et je vous offre mes meilleurs vœux pour une nouvelle année 2012 remplie de bonheur et de succès. Prenez le temps de réfléchir à l'année qui vient de passer et songez à un futur prometteur où vous tirerez profit de ce que vous offre Toastmasters



autant dans votre vie personnelle qu'au sein de votre collectivité, dans le cadre de votre carrière et auprès de votre famille. Amusez-vous tout en étant prudent!

À Noël, cette année, donnez le cadeau du leadership et de la bonne communication

Comme cadeau, pourquoi pas une résolution du Nouvel An?

Ou

Madam District Governor,

I'm happy to announce that Club Coach Weekly has featured the Carleton Toastmasters Club #9482 in its 14th edition. Club Coach Weekly is an electronic newsletter freely available on the District 8 website... <http://www.dist8tm.org/clubcoach.html> Our mission is to prevent isolation, present ideas and provide inspiration to club coaches throughout the world. Each edition features the story of a successful club coach and a letter of praise written by a member of the coached club. This edition was written by Shirley McKey, coach of the Carleton Toastmasters Club.

The letter of praise was written by Beverly Zawada, the current President of the Carleton Toastmasters.

To rebuild the club, Shirley wisely reestablished regular

meetings of the club's officers. With a forum for communication firmly established, the club addressed its challenges. The club changed its philosophy from a club for students to a Toastmasters club that included students. Then they planned and performed a series of open houses with great effect.

I have a great deal of respect for Shirley. In 2004-2005, I coached the Columbia Toastmasters #1393, a university-based club in Columbia, South Carolina (District 58). Like the Carleton Toastmasters Club, we opened the club to the surrounding community, hosted special meetings to build membership and sought a permanent meeting room. It was still VERY difficult.

Next time you see Shirley, please thank her for her service. In 2010-2011, only

31% of coached clubs earned the Distinguished (or better) Club Award. Based on my own experience, coaching university-based clubs is extremely difficult. Shirley beat the odds to help this club - that means she's a great coach!

As District Governor, you may use Club Coach Weekly to help your club coaches. I will share Shirley's positive story with club coaches and district leaders throughout the world.

Yours in Toastmasters,

John Murphy, DTM  
Editor of Club Coach Weekly  
Member of the District 8 Facilitation And Support Team (F.A.S.T.)

\*\*\*\*\*

Félicitations à léona hamel, pierre croteau, nick schultze et sam kim qui ont présenté une performance de haut niveau et qui ont atteint les plus hauts niveaux d'accomplissement, lors des concours de discours

\*\*\*\*\*

humoristiques et d'évaluation de discours du district-61 de toastmasters international, les 18-19-20 novembre 2011! Vous êtes des personnes exceptionnelles:nous sommes fiers de vous!

Jacques Poirier  
Gouverneur Division-G

Jacques Poirier  
Grâce à l'initiative de Solange Roy, le club Toastmasters Expression de Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Québec, complétera, mercredi, le 30 novembre 2011, un Séminaire

d'expression orale (Speechcraft) et déjà, nous prévoyons l'adhésion de 3 nouveaux membres au sein du club Expression-6552.

Félicitations, Solange, et bienvenue aux nouveaux membres du club Toastmasters Expression

### Tall Tales Contest in Arnprior



The Winners of Arnprior Toastmasters First ever Tall Tales Contest and open house, held November 30: Third Place: Mirza Karimullah, Second Place: Lynne Zander, First Place: Rick Holloway, Contest Chair: Deanna Karimullah, VP Membership, Arnprior Toastmasters. This contest was open to both Toastmaster Members and Non-Toastmaster Members.

Voici les gagnants du premier concours d'histoires invraisemblables et porte ouverte qui a eu lieu le 30 novembre: Troisième place: Mirza Karimullah, deuxième place: Lynne Zander, première place: Rick Holloway, Présidente du concours: Deanna Karimullah, VPF, Arnprior Toastmasters. Parmi les concurrents il y avaient des Toastmasters et aussi des invités.

Another Valley Speech Marathon - Valley Vintage Advanced Club held a Speech Marathon in Renfrew. Fran Watson - The Carpenter; Brad Dota - One More Year; Ed Nicholson - Quality Assurance; Francine Fortin - All my Relations; Lynne Kobus - Lenore's List; Lynne Zander - The Second Half; Lenore Whelan - Chocolate The Health Food. Count them Seven Members - Seven Speeches including Seven Written Evaluations. Winners: 1st - Lynne Kobus; 2nd - Ed Nicholson; 3rd - Lenore Whelan; and 4th Place - Guest Francine Fortin.



Gisele Hache recoit une



reconnaissance pour ses 5 années d'implication avec Toastmasters. Murielle a fait ses éloges et les directeurs de la section ont constaté de plus près comment les membres

peaufinent leurs abiletés en Communication et Leadership. Les valeurs soulignées ont été sa persévérance, son dévouement, et son charisme. Félicitations et merci Gisèle pour ta passion et ton enthousiasme!



Le club de la cite de librairie et archive est en pleine expansion a Gatineau. L'equipe de dirigeants est dynamique et passionnee. Merci au soutien de nombreux benevole au sein du district 61,

From Sylvie Guillot Wingert - Les Mots Arts et Marche Artisanal 26 novembre 2011



Nov 23, 2011 Arnprior Toastmaster did something different for meeting - A SPEECH MARATHON - 7 speeches with only written evaluation. Numbers were drawn to determine order and again to see who would evaluate their manual. Titles of Speeches: The Human Virus; Perfect Fit; No More Sliding Doors, Polar Bears of Churchill Manitoba; The Post Mistress; Generational History; Summer of 1978.

Vote for the best Speaker resulted in 1st Place Nancy Spence, 2nd Place Lynne Zander and 3rd Place Deanna Karimullah.



Joyeux Noel



Fran Watson  
District 61 Public Relations Officer

