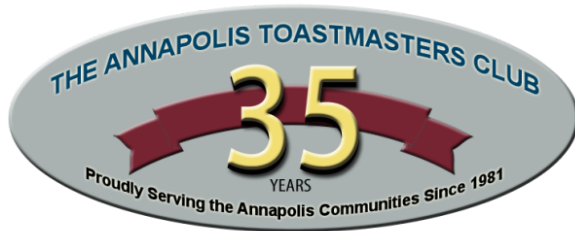


Annapolis Toastmasters: ***Toast of the Town***

Edition 1, March 2017

Celebrating 35 Years of Service to the Annapolis Community!



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

35th Anniversary Open House By Izabela Benjamin

Annapolis Toastmasters hosted an Open House event on Tuesday, January 21st. We were honored to have many wonderful Guests. Thank you all for coming! We hope you had a good time, learned a lot about Toastmasters International and our Club and that you will not be able to resist coming back ;-)

This meeting was meant to give our Guests a gist of what Toastmasters International is about and Anna did just that - she talked about the membership, about our Competent Communication and Competent Leadership manuals, educational track, and different roles members can take on. Anna's introduction to Toastmasters gave a good picture of what to expect when considering joining TMI.

Alka had us totally gobsmacked with her outstanding inspiration for the night; remember "Impossible is Nothing". Later on, Lisa gave some of us a chance to win the lottery which, as expected, made the winners' imagination go far and wide. Well, at least those with substantial winnings :)

We also had two amazing speeches. In her inspiring "New Year, New Goals" speech, Sherry made a case for volunteering and the various benefits it brings – for you, your community and your work experience. Our second speaker was Christalene with her first speech, the Ice Breaker. She took us on a journey through her life, relationships and her amazing creativity. We are very lucky to have you as our member, Christalene!

This meeting also started a new era for our Club – it was the first time our speeches went live on Facebook! Awesome, isn't it?! If you want to see them again or share them with someone, please go to our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AnnapolisToastmasters/> and while there, don't forget to "Like" us and our posts.



Open House Speakers: Anna Iobst, Christalene Karaiskakis and Sherry Kuiper



Club Leadership: Scott Kennedy, Anna Iobst, VP of Izabela Benjamin, Lisa Foley, Shar Gogerdchi and Sherry Kuiper

Club Spring Contest

This year's Spring Contest topics are international speech and Table Topics. Annapolis Toastmasters held its Club level contest on February 21, 2017. While we did not have any participants in the speech contest, we had some amazing Table Topics contestants! Each participant had to randomly pull three food items from a bag and then tell us about the fabulous meal they were making as though they were on a cooking show! It made for some interesting concoctions, that's for sure! Our winner is Donna Gogerdchi, who now moves on to the Area contest in March! Good Luck, Donna and congratulations to all of our contestants!



Our 2017 Spring Club Table Topics Contestants: Alka Bromiley, Donna Gogerdchi and Jamie Fleetwood (not pictured)

Area 34 Spring Contest

Congratulations to Alka Bromiley and Donna Gogerdchi, who competed in Table Topics in the Area 34 Spring Contest on March 12, 2017. Alka came in Second Place, advancing to the Division Contest in April.



Alka Bromiley and Donna Gogerdchi compete in the Area 34 Spring Contest

New Members



New members inducted in January 2017: Melissa Leibman, Alka Bromiley and Leslie Payne

Members Milestones



Alka and Leslie give the first speech on their Toastmasters journey: The Ice Breaker!



Scott Kennedy reaches a milestone, giving his tenth speech, earning his Competent Communicator Award!

From the President

Annapolis Toastmasters,

It has been my honor and distinct privilege to serve you as President of the Annapolis Toastmasters Club for the 2016-2017 term.

As we pass the mid-point of the current term, I look back with pride at all of our accomplishments and achievements, building on the traditions and efforts of prior club leaders.

September 2016 marked the 35th anniversary of our club, having first been chartered in 1981. With increased community recognition and engagement, we entered our 36th year with more ambition and drive than ever. We have benefited from the many visitors and numerous inspirational speeches that have been delivered. We've worked hard to provide constructive feedback and help one another learn from our collective experiences.

“Learning is experience. Everything else is just information.” –Albert Einstein

My theme for this year is “Experiential Learning!” The Toastmasters process is centered on this theme of experiential learning. Every single member has a personal goal for improvement, and comes to meetings to learn. I challenge every one of you to learn through experience. These experiences include attending meetings, participating in roles and volunteering in leadership efforts.

As you work to accomplish your individual goals, the club leadership team is here to support you in your journey. Each of our individual goals are also linked to the overarching goals of the club. Over our 35 year history, our club has achieved many goals of the Distinguished Club Program, and this year we are aiming for the highest level of recognition, President's Distinguished Club. We cannot do this alone and rely on the experiential learning opportunities from each and every one of you.

I look forward to leading this club in another successful year and to helping each of you achieve your individual goals.

Shar Gogerdchi

Annapolis Toastmasters Club President
2016-2017

Mark Your Calendars!

Division Contest: Saturday, April 15th at the Broadneck Library starting at Noon

Toastmaster Alka Bromiley will be representing Annapolis Toastmasters in the Division Spring Contest. Alka will be competing in the Table Topics portion of the contest.

District 18 Spring Conference: May 20th at Hampton Inn by Hilton in Frederick, MD

The keynote speaker will be Jim Key, 2003 World Champion of Public Speaking! Register today at www.toastmasters-d18.org

Share with the club!

Have you been traveling around the Annapolis Area with your Toastmaster Magazine? If so snap a picture for our own local Traveling Toastmaster! Show off your favorite spots and we will post them on our club's Facebook page and here in the newsletter! Show your hometown AND Toastmasters pride!

Brag a little!

Annapolis Toastmasters are doing some big things outside of the club, so why not share that! Next time you are at a public speaking engagement, leading others in our community or maybe receiving an award or recognition... share a picture with us! It's important to showcase how we take Toastmasters out of the meeting room and apply the lessons to our everyday lives!

Send your submissions to Sherry Kuiper, our VP of Public Relations, at sherrykuiper@gmail.com or via text. Be sure to include a description of the photo!

Current Club Leadership

President: Shar Gogerdchi

Vice President of Education (VPE): Anna Iobst

Vice President of Public Relations (VPPR): Sherry Kuiper

Vice President of Membership: Alka Bromiley*

Treasurer: Scott Kennedy

Secretary: Sarah Finniss*

Sergeant at Arms: Lisa Foley

* denotes new member in position