

Expanding Horizons

From the Region Boardroom



ITC Australian Region Inc.

From the Region President

Remember...

- ◆ Blog Articles for your Club Sub-domain
- ◆ Pun competition—send us a pun and be in the running for a Coles-Myer gift card
- ◆ Register for Conference before early-bird date of 15 February.



Set your goals for success in 2017 now.

Inside this issue:

Region Fees and notes for Treasurers	2
Competition time	2
Important Dates for the Term	2
What does Protocol have to do with PREM?	3
Lessons from the Geese	3
Board Contact Details	4
Region Conference 2017	4

Welcome to 2017! What an exciting year it is to be a member of POWERtalk International.

This May, we have our Australian Region Conference in Wollongong from 19th—21st. Our Region speech contest will be held on 20th, and we are looking forward to another excellent competition.

Prior to Region Conference [on the morning of Friday 19th] we will run a free interactive education session about speaking on video, which will include the opportunity to record your testimonial for social media use. We encourage all members to attend this free event.

The Region Conference Pack has been distributed by CLO. If you have not received yours, please contact us and we will send you a copy directly. The closing date for early bird registration is rapidly approaching, so get in quickly for substantial savings, as well as the opportunity to win a cash prize [prize draw open only to those who register prior to 15 Feb].

Also at Region Conference, we will present the Alex Applebaum award [club of the year] and President's award [member of the year]. Nominations for the President's award are now open and any member, club or council may nominate a member for this award. The criteria can be found in the member's section of the Region website. The Alex Applebaum award will be decided by the Region Board using information collected from the three club to Council/Region reports.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all club Presidents for their promptness in sending in reports on time over the Christmas recess. It was a joy to be able to compile and send the Region report to International on time without the added burden of chasing up information. The next club report is due just prior to conference on 12th May.

In July, the International Convention will be held in Seattle. If you are able to attend, the Region Board encourages you to do so. Conventions allow you the opportunity to learn from members all around the world, expand your circle of friends, network with members from other regions and have your say in the running of the POWERtalk International Organisation.

In the previous issue we suggested club members write their favourite moment of the year for Christmas greetings on the club blog. This issue, our suggestion is to collate a goal list for the club, then through the term, write a reflection from each person as they achieve that goal—reflect on how great it feels to have achieved it, and on what kind of mentoring and support your club members gave you through the process. If you have difficulty in posting your blogs, please contact me directly for assistance.

Also, the pun competition closing date has been extended to 7 March, so put pen to paper and be in the running [punning] to win a Coles-Myer gift card.

As I write, the writing contest has just closed, and contest chair, Bernadette Knight is in the process of forwarding entries to the judges. I congratulate all who went to the effort of submitting an entry—that is an achievement in itself. I am looking forward to the Region Conference when I, like all Region members, find out who the winners are.

The start of a new year is a great time to set goals. What is it you wish to achieve this year? Whatever it is, I wish you success and plenty of enjoyment throughout 2017.

Warm regards

Mary Wong

President
ITC Australian
Region Inc



POWERtalk International

Region Fees and Notes for Treasurers

A pro-rata list of Region fees is in the column to the left.

February	\$22.50
March	\$18.75
April	\$15.00
May	\$11.25
June	\$7.50
July	\$3.75

When joining a new member, please ensure a copy of your Club's international paperwork is also copied to the Region Treasurer [as this allows us to keep our records up to date] and to the Council treasurer.

The law requires that the Region maintain a register of all members with address, phone number, date of joining and membership numbers, so please forward all information, and send membership number once it is received from International.

Please send Australian Region fees to VP Finance, Bernadette Knight, 90 Richmond Street, Gordon Park QLD 4031 and/or email forms to bernknight@gmail.com

Thank you for your assistance.

COMPETITION TIME!

All in good pun! As part of the Region digital marketing strategy, we are looking for some fun puns to use as memes on our Region Facebook page. These are useful as they create page engagement, and when shared raise brand awareness. Send your pun ideas in and be in the running to win a prize. Send entries to Margaret Sutherland or Mary Wong **by 7 March 2017** margs@bigpond.net.au or maryhannahaus@iprimus.com.au

Important Dates for the Term

There's always something coming up, and in our busy lives we forget sometimes. So, to assist you with your planning, here are some dates for the term that you might want to pop in your diary now.

We don't want to miss your event! If you notice a missing date, please let us know, so we can share throughout the Region.

FEBRUARY

Welcome back!

- 1 Feb—writing contest closes
- 7 Feb—Region to International Reports due
- 15 Feb—Early Bird Registration deadline for Region Conference
- 19 Feb—Closing date for nominations for Region Office for the following term

MARCH

- 12 Mar—Region Board meeting (cyber)
- 15 Mar—End of Term reports for Region All Club Mailing due for Councils and Club-at-Large
- 18 Mar—Council 7 Meeting and Speech Contest
- 25 Mar—Council 9 Meeting and Speech Contest

APRIL

- 4 Apr—Region All Club Mailing is due
- 9 Apr TBC—Region Board meeting (cyber)
- 9 Apr—Brisbane Central 50 years since charter—celebration

MAY

- 4 May—Club Credentials to Credentials Chair
- 7 May—Club to Council Reports due
- 19 May—Region Board meeting

- 21 May—Council and Club-at-Large Reports to Region due
- 29 May—Region to International Report due

JUNE

- 10 Jun—Council 9 Meeting
- 17 Jun—Council 7 Meeting

JULY

- 21-26 July—International Convention and International Speech Contest, Seattle, Washington



- 19—21 May—ITC Australian Region Conference and AGM, Wollongong

AUGUST

- 1 August—fees for new term due

“Science is organised knowledge.

Wisdom is organised life”

Immanuel Kant



Margaret Sutherland, Region PREM chair

“...we all like to feel important”

Most of us know the protocol of seating at Conferences and at Convention, few know that this also applies at club. Leafing through an old Toastmistress Handbook the other day I came across a section on Protocol. It was interesting and very much of its time eg. ‘Leave your handbag and gloves on your chair when called to the lectern’, but it also contained some gems.

The book says:

‘What is Protocol? - In clubs protocol is the proper seating arrangement of officers, guests and program participants at a meeting and the correct method of presenting them to the assembly.

Why is it? - To accord proper recognition to the office as represented by each person.

What significance has it to a Toastmistress? - Though exemplary practice our members will be trained to utilise only the acceptable methods of procedure. Through this education they will be prepared to assume their places in all circumstances with poise and dignity. Our practices will aid in forming a public image of the true concept of proper protocol.’

So what is expected of us today as POWERtalk International members?

Whilst the above is possibly a little outmoded, it does give an indication why some visitors do not come back after a first meeting. We need to give every visitor a good experience, this means a friendly, well-prepared and organised meeting where the visitor is introduced to the members in a warm manner and made feel welcome. The visitor needs to feel that there is common bond/goal with members to want to come back. They need to feel they fit with members — the wish to improve their communication skills is not enough. They need to be invited back.

As we return to meeting mode after the break why not do an inventory of the protocol your club has in place for when there is a visitor at your meeting, what is the hook that you are going to lure them back with. Remember people do business with people they like, people join with people they like and finally we all like to feel important.

LESSONS FROM THE GEESE

Margaret Grand, Region President-Elect

Recently, I presented workshops on working in effective teams to Council 7 and Council New South Wales. At the end of the presentation, I included “Lessons from the Geese” by Dr Robert McNeish (1972). Not all members were at the Council meetings, so I am reprinting it here for the benefit of all members.

Fact 1. As each goose flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird following. By flying in a V formation, the whole flock add 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.

Fact 2: Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

Lesson: If we have as much common sense as a goose, we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

Fact 3: When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.

Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other’s skills, capabilities and unique arrangement of gifts, talents or resources.

Fact 4: When a goose gets sick, or wounded, or is shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

Lesson: If we have as much sense as geese we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

Fact 5: The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson: We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, the production is much greater. The power of encouragement, to stand by one’s heart or core values and encourage the heart and core values of others is the quality of honking we see.



ITC Australian Region Inc.
POWER*talk* International

President: Mary Wong
12 Daniel Place,
Newmarket, Qld 4051
maryhannahaus@iprimus.com.au

President-Elect: Margaret Grand
m.grand@bigpond.com

Secretary: Jan Broe
broitc@broe.com.au

Vice President Finance: Bernadette Knight
bernknight@gmail.com

Come Shine With Us!



The next ITC Australian Region Conference
Will be held at Sage Hotel, Wollongong, NSW
on 19th — 21st May 2017.



Conference pack has been sent via CLO and is available on the
Region website

<http://www.powertalkaustralia.org.au/conference>



POWER*talk* International.....Coaching in Effective Speaking