



Dear Toastmasters!

Every New Year adds something new to our meetings. The 473rd meeting, the first one in 2010th, started, lasted and ended in an unusual way. If you've missed an opportunity to do your best in a one-hour table topic discussion, read this newsletter to learn more!

The meeting started with the speech by the President Valeria Kholodkova, CC, CL, who wished us all a happy and successful new year. Let's implement the club's goals and plans together!

1. **Invocation** was delivered by **Alexei Eraskin**. During 1,5 minutes he contrived to make such a strong call to being active, that the audience had a little chance of passivity! By the way, in this issue of our newsletter you can read his Invocation in a special section – 'invocation of the meeting'.

2. The **Word of the day** was presented by **Ivan Deryabin**. You should always chose the simplest word out of two possible ones,- said Oskar Wilde. You are mistaken if you think the word "sound" was introduced in it's commonness. Vice a versa, Ivan familiarized us with a lot of phrases and, what's especially important, informal expressions. All the participants did their utmost in using this word, so that even an argument "who is the winner?" took place.

473rd meeting, January 14th, 2010

Quote of this issue:

"Be still when you have nothing to say; when genuine passion moves you, say what you've got to say, and say it hot".

— D. H. Lawrence

3. **The Joke of the day** was presented by **Tatiana Gladicheva**. Three eternal subjects - wife, husband and money – won audience's approval and made us all laugh.

4. The **Toastmaster** of the meeting, **Margarita Ryndina, AC-B**, made a precautionary preamble by description of the rules and time-management system of the club. It was very opportunely, because a New Year was marked by 7 newcomers coming!



She introduced all the participants with a couple of welcoming words and paved the way for speakers to feel comfortable before an audience. In spite of the fact that some members gave Margarita a rough time, she managed perfectly with all cropping up problems, like, for instance, a lost speaker or a changed schedule!

Moscow Free Speakers Club



5. The first and, by chance, the last speaker of this nonstandard 473rd meeting was **Nadezhda Nikiforova**. This fact played good to her: the project

would be more memorable than any other that day. Her **Ice Breaker** was a well-prepared speech about her background and its influence on the present. It could be proposed that a rare person is able to understand and imagine, what 'polymer' is. This nice lady is such a one out of few. Nadezhda takes a great interest in technology of polymer processing. She showed us how puzzles of life could be transformed into life of puzzles. Good job, Nadezhda, and welcome to the club!

6. When it came to **John Kolpikov's** turn to deliver the 2nd project, it was found out... he wasn't there! John, we hope you are self and sound. But the bad news is that you successfully earned your first penalty point. Beware of such behaviour and don't let the Club down.

7. The **General Evaluator's** role was taken up by our young and prospective member – **Ekaterina Sidorenko**. Not only she has made 2 projects within 2 months only (despite the fact that our speeches schedule is very tight these days!), but she also started her CL manual and is going fast!

This was her first experience being a host for the 2nd part of our meeting and she started with the neat evaluation of all the roles that were played in the first hour. She also pointed out the



drawbacks of the meeting, such as mobiles ringing (please, make sure you do switch them off during the meeting!) and a number of late arrivals, which were rather annoying that time. There are still certain things to learn about the role (and we know that there are no limits for perfection) but there is also no doubt Katya did a good job last Thursday!

Evaluations:

12. **Valentin Novikov** appeared to be the only one appointed personal evaluator of Nadezhda's project.

However his evaluation was one in a long row of other evaluations, so Nadezhda was lucky to get a lot of feedback. Here we name just a few:

- + good preparation*
- + good structure*
- + strong eye-contact*
- restricted body language*
- grammatical problems.*

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13. **Henry Norman, AC-S**, introduced a theme for a 40 minutes **Table Topic** discussion which was “10 commandments in our everyday life”. At first the members felt a bit awkward about not remembering the most part of the Moses’ commandments and had certain semantic unconformity. So Henry made the task a little easier in narrowing down the issue to the financial side. We heard dozens of different opinions, many of them were around the “not to steal” matter, but others embraced broader subjects. Many were polar, others were alike, but no one was indifferent to this peculiar issue. Almost all present members had the chance to take part in this unusual discussion. And, as always, we had the winner – Natalia Radaykina won her prize with her story about the family impact. If you missed this powerful discussion, then you alone are to blame!

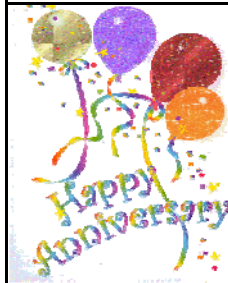


To catch up with us, visit...

**...our next meeting that is scheduled
for January, 28th!**

There you will hear 2 advanced projects by Irina Chernyaga, CC, and Vladimir Chirkov, CC, and the *Successful Club Series* project – **Mentorship** – from Valeria Kholodkova, CC, CL!

Our Birthdays!



**OUR WARMEST
CONGRATULATIONS
AND HAPPY WISHES
FOR A NEW YEAR TO
OUR DEAR FELLOW
MEMBERS!**

December 31st – IRINA CHERNYAGA!

January 2nd – NICK SAPOZHNIKOV!

January 22nd – NINA TSYGANKOVA!

January 24th – HELEN DYAKONOVA!

Points:

Margarita Ryndina, AC-B <i>(Toastmaster)</i>	9.3
Nadezhda Nikiforova <i>(Speaker 1)</i>	9.0
Valentin Novikov <i>(Personal Evaluator 1)</i>	9.1
Ekaterina Sidorenko <i>(General Evaluator)</i>	8.0
Henry Norman, AC-S <i>(Table Topic Master)</i>	8.3



News!

Dear fellow Moscow Free Speakers!

#1. The **important news** is that due to the reconstruction of the Oktyabrskaya Kolzevaya metro station we have agreed on temporarily postponing the beginning of our meetings to

7.15 pm

to give you more time to be in time for the meeting!

#2. Many of you have attended our **Christmas party 2009 on December 25th** and, hopefully, enjoyed it. We have made a video recording of that memorable even as well as took a number of pictures. The good news is that you can already enjoy some photos from that evening on our website. You can find it in 'Our photos' section or simply follow this link –

http://moscowfreespeakers.ru/photos_christmas_2009

We would also appreciate greatly if you give us your own **FEEDBACK** on what you liked or disliked about this Christmas party. Please send your ideas and suggestions to [toastmasters_ru@yahoo.com!](mailto:toastmasters_ru@yahoo.com)

Invocation of the meeting

Dear fellow Toastmasters and guests!

I remember some interesting quotation from Unknown Author: "Don't start living tomorrow, tomorrow never arrives. Start working on your dreams and ambitions today."

I certainly agree with that thought and think it's a very productive way of thinking that we can use here in Toastmasters club right now.

If you are guest, please, join table topic discussions and participate in other activities. There are many of them.

If you are member please be active and sign up for projects. Don't put aside your project participation.

So my point today is :

Don't start living tomorrow, tomorrow never arrives. Start working on your dreams and ambitions today!

by Alexey Eraskin