

Moscow Free Speakers Club



Dear Toastmasters!

Do you know that on February, 4th, 1993, Russian scientists unfolded a giant mirror on the earth-orbit and sent a sunbeam through Europe at night. Onlookers saw it as a short bright flash. Hopefully, Moscow Free Speakers Club will help you learn the art of making speeches as bright and memorable as this beam and your thoughts will fly and be caught not only in Europe, but all over the world! Let's dare!

1. **Evgenia Maseeva**, the **Invocation Master**, made us to plunge into beauty of flowers festival and to feel deeply the joy of Thailand's holiday. Many things can be said in flowers. It's absolutely unnecessary to wait until tomorrow or St. Valentine's day to present someone flowers, when you can bring some spring to nearest's and dearest's life today! Have you responded to the call?

2. **Alla Oganova, CC**, the most popular, desired and successful Personal Evaluator of the last year took the role of the **Toastmaster** of the



meeting. And those, who hadn't had the luck to observe this yet, got the evidence that Alla manages toastmastering as good as evaluating!

475th meeting, February 4th, 2010

Quote of this issue:

"It usually takes me more than three weeks to prepare a good impromptu speech."

— Mark Twain

Thanks to her inventiveness when coping with mess-ups and traditional gentle way of presenting the speakers the meeting passed without a hitch.

3. The **Word Master** ... didn't appear! Without a moment's hesitation Alla closed this gap and proposed the word '**great**' as the Word of the Day. And it truly became a motto of that night!

4. If you've missed this great meeting, you still have a chance to laugh with us for a while. Read the **Joke of the Day** by **Alexey Kravtsun** at the end of the newsletter!

5. Newcomers are always given the way in Moscow Free Speakers Club! The projects' part was started by a promising new member - **Ivan Deryabin**. He told



us about his life in different parts of our Homeland and where it took him up to this moment. Ivan was very open to the audience talking about all his hobbies and he does have a lot of them! Although it was his **Ice Breaker**, one could say a pilot project, Ivan is already preparing for the next one! Hopefully, Toastmasters will become your other hobby, Ivan! Congratulations on your first project!

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6. Denis Shevchuk

through his **project #2** entitled “Tabula rasa or natural talents” introduced us two concepts of what we are. Denis argued that



there exist at least two alternative ways, which people follow, developing their lives. One can either choose a direction and try to succeed in it by what is called “deliberate practice”. Or he can follow his intuition and try to develop the skills that naturally stick to him. As much well-thought as well-delivered speech made listeners not only to ponder over the subject, but also to laugh. It was a good example of how enthusiasm and thorough preparation can make wonders on stage!

It’s worth to mention, that without wasting time Denis has joined the Club’s **Mentoring Program**. This project is the result of combined work of Denis and his mentor, Igor Vinogradov, who had helped him substantially. If you liked Denis’s project, think how a mentor could help you developing your next project and search for one!

7. Lilia Nurutdinova presented her **2nd project** with the intriguing title “Double standards in gender relations”. On the one hand women are so feministic today. On the other hand they expect men to take care of them and support relations.

Women wish to see men responsible, but don’t give them such an opportunity. Lilia revealed a serious problem of double standards, which is stuck in our minds. Evidence were



produced on the spot: female listeners depicted a desired man in great detail. He must be strong, rich, helpful, intelligent, sportive, successful, affectionate... Why a man can be loved for his achievements, when a woman just for being a woman?! In the powerful conclusion, Lilia called upon the female part of the audience to cease demanding from the opposite gender more, than they give themselves.

8. Valeria Kulnevskaya is definitely an example of an active Toastmaster to follow. She is successively cultivating her leadership skills by taking the major driving roles almost at every our meeting! This time she chose the



General Evaluator’s role and started with an overview of some shortcomings that make our meeting uncomfortable, inducing us to behave more respectfully to our peers and friends. Then she gave quite a detailed and tenacious survey of every single role of the first part of our meeting and gave the floor to our Personal Evaluators.



Evaluations:

9. The first PE to listen was **Olga Filimonova** with her feedback on our newly-made Toastmaster – Ivan Deryabin. She mentioned that:

- + *the project was well structured;*
- + *objectives were met completely;*
- + *maintained a good eye contact and smiled;*
- + *good links between the parts of the project;*
- *lots of «ah-s»;*
- *grammar needs improvement.*

10. **Valeria Kholodkova, CC, CL**, was the PE for Denis Shevchuk. She pointed out the following:

- + *an appealing introduction;*
- + *powerful vocal use;*
- + *good use of humour and visuals;*
- + *careful preparation;*
- *lack of personal examples and conclusions;*
- *excessive movements on the stage.*

11. **Natalia Sherstneva, CC**, definitely earns a position of a 'life-time rescuer' in Moscow Free Speakers! This time she accepted to evaluate Lilia's project on the spot:

- + *constant smile created a positive image;*
- + *an interesting topic chosen for the speech;*
- *too long an introduction;*
- *unnecessary interaction with the audience;*
- *use of notes.*

12. The **Table Topics** section was opened by **Dmitry Chebotarevsky**, our new, or better say, reinstated member. His topic could be described in one meaningful word - 'Fear'. Although it sounds short, it caused a very long and interesting



discussion where many of us shared our personal fears and ways of overcoming or not-overcoming them. Apart from personal experiences we also raised the global questions, such as 'what a society should be afraid of'. Different answers were given, starting from 'intolerance' and 'revolutions' to 'stupidity'. This subject evidently evoked diverse emotions and made us deeply think of the concept of 'fear' and its consequences. And this is also what Table Topics are about. Way to go, Dmitry, and welcome back!

Our next meeting is on February 18th!

The theme of the meeting will be the **February, 23rd** and we are going to hear the Ice Breaker by Nikolay Filin, the 5th project by Valentin Novikov and the 2nd advanced project by Irina Chernyaga, CC, who is definitely pushing it very hard to get AC-B by the end of this year!

See you soon!



Points:

Alla Oganova, CC <i>(Toastmaster)</i>	8.9
Ivan Deryabin <i>(Speaker 1)</i>	6.8
Denis Shevchuk <i>(Speaker 2)</i>	7.9
Lilia Nurutdinova <i>(Speaker 3)</i>	8.1
Olga Filimonova <i>(Personal Evaluator 1)</i>	7.1
Valeria Kholodkova, CC, CL <i>(Personal Evaluator 2)</i>	9.1
Natalya Sherstneva, CC <i>(Personal Evaluator 3)</i>	8.2
Valeria Kulnevskaya <i>(General Evaluator)</i>	7.7
Dmitry Chebotarevsky <i>(Table Topics Master)</i>	8.5
Meeting as a whole	7.9

Joke of the meeting:

Sharmil, a shy person, who could not give an address in public was invited by the King at his palace for a dinner. No one could reject the invitation. The King had a condition that everyone would have to give a speech after the dinner. Anyone who would not comply, will be thrown in a cage where a Lion was roaring. Everyone spoke a few words and now was the turn of Sharmil. He could not gather the courage and did not speak.



Angry at his disobedience, the king ordered him to be thrown in the cage. Every one looked as Sharmil was thrown in the cage. Yet 15 -20 minutes passed and the Lion did not kill Sharmil.

Surprised, the king, asked that Sharmil be pardoned and when he came out, asked him the secret as to why the Lion did not eat him? Sharmil replied the king, that in the cage he told the Lion that if the Lion ate him, he would have to give the after dinner speech. Since the lion was scared of public speaking, he did not eat Sharmil.

by Alexey Kravtsov

Our Birthdays!

Our warmest
congratulations
to our Dear Fellow:



VIKTOR BABICHEV!
February 16th