



Dear Toastmasters!

It's one thing when a person does his or her tasks alone, it's a whole different story when a group of people work together. In the latter case it's more effective to assign a team to control and manage the whole process and the other people involved. And how do you choose, who to pick for the roles? The election is a possible answer. And that was exactly what we had at the last **483rd meeting on May, 20, 2010 - Elections of the Executive Committee (EC) 2010-2011** of Moscow Free Speakers. The previous year was hugely successful for our club thanks to our dear club mates in EC. In fact, for the first time in our history, we became a President's Distinguished Club! Thank you for the great job, ladies and gentlemen!:) You're a great example for the new EC. Good luck the new team!

1. Most of us know what an election is. While the process is a rather familiar one, there can be peculiar cases, as, say, election in 1990-s in Prague with the number of candidates was over 1 000 or the election in California, USA, in 2003 where there were many unusual candidates such as a porn-star, several actors including Arnold Schwarzenegger, the publisher of an adult magazine Larry Flynt...

These and a couple of more interesting ideas and facts were what **Tatyana Gladychева, Invocation Master** told us about, concluding her speech with urge to trust ourselves and not to be afraid to make decisions while choosing a candidate during an election.

483rd meeting, May 20th, 2010

Quote of this issue:

"Great presenters aren't born, they are PREPARED!"

— Arlene Cohen

2. There are different types of hosts. Some can make a meeting flow very smoothly with them barely noticeable. Others compete for attention with the participants, delivering a series of mini projects



between the speeches and mini roles. But as Deng Xiaoping, the de-facto successor of Mao Zedong on the position of the leader of China (by the way, not properly elected), said: *"I don't care if it's a white cat or a black cat. It's a good cat so long as it catches mice."*

Henry Norman, AC-S, the **Toastmaster** of the meeting was the second type of "cat", making mini-speeches of his own and drawing considerable attention to himself. It didn't prevent him from "catching mice", though, as all the participants fulfilled their roles just within the established time limit.

Moscow Free Speakers Club



3. It would be no fair failing to notice that **Alexandra Borissova**, the **Word Master**, prepared for her role for fair. Our club gives all its members a fair shake to take roles and develop. And it would be just fair enough to say that Alexandra uses her opportunities. Chances are Alexandra won't be just a fair-weather friend for the club, but will be a very active member. The word Alexandra presented was "*fair*" - just the right word, as our election is definitely a fair play!

4. Do you agree that the type of work each of us does influences our thinking and behaving in a way?

Denis Shevchuk, the **Joke master**, told a story about several different medical specialists that illustrated such an influence. You should have seen Denis performing! But if you missed the meeting, catch up with the joke at the end of the newsletter.

5. How do you spend your vacation? Do you plan it ahead? Do you like creating an orderly procedure of your vacation? Or do you prefer an adventure with great deal of spontaneity?

Evgeniya Maseeva preferred the second way

to organize her vacation in Greece. And, quite unconventionally, it was the vacation she dedicated her ice-breaker to.



Confidently, enthusiastically and without any notes anywhere around her Evgeniya told us the story mixing in a couple of facts about herself on the way: we learned that she was originally from Volgograd, loved architecture, art and worked out regularly. We listened with pleasure about her journey and herself. Welcome to the club, Evgeniya!

6. Do you have a substantial fortune? Maybe you inherited a lump sum of money? Or won a lottery? If you can't answer positively any of the above questions, you, presumably, have to work for your living. And your



career is quite an important question for you. That's why you'd be interested to witness **Dmitry Chebotarevsky's** third project "**Successful career**". Dmitry told us about the things that define and influence whether or not people have successful careers, telling a real-life story at the end to exemplify the "theory".

Dmitry has already a reputation for the quality of his performances. It was pleasure to listen to him.

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7. Happy New Year! Surprised? But you're curious why would anyone congratulate you with the New year in the middle of May, aren't you? That was how **Igor Vinogradov** started his 4th project



"A broken life". In the project Igor told us about the reason we didn't see him for quite some time. He broke not "just" a leg or an arm, but his spine! Thankfully, Igor came through that.

Igor told us how he had the accident, his feelings, how he fought fear, apathy and what lessons he extracted from the situation.

Igor's project was masterfully delivered and deeply charged with emotions. We were touched with a real life story many can relate to rather easily. Suffering his misfortune Igor managed to stay very active within the club, effectively mentoring two members at the same time! Thanks for your inspiring project Igor. We are truly glad to have you back with us not just at a distance, but in person at last!

8. The second part of the meeting was opened by the **General Evaluator, Valeria Kholodkova, CC, AL-B**, the current President of our club. As it was the Elections Day of the new Executive



Committee, she asked us all to participate and to vote! In fact, we did have a choice to make - we had two candidates for the position of the Treasurer: **Ilya Volin** and **Irina Chernyaga, CC**, the actual Treasurer. The two candidates presented small speeches in their own favor.

As the result of the election, Ilya Volin was elected as Treasurer 2010-2011. In his energetic and well-prepared presentation, Ilya assured us that he will keep the finance of our club in order and present quarterly reports! By the way, do you know that Ilya is a student of the Finance Academy? So this position will also give him an opportunity not only to develop his leadership skills, but also to gain some professional experience in the field of finance! Congratulations and good luck in your new position, Ilya!

As for the candidates for the other positions, the proposed candidates by the present Executive Committee were elected! **Good luck in your new positions, fellow Toastmasters!**



Returning to the evaluation of the first part of the meeting, the General Evaluator underlined that the meeting ran very smoothly. We started and finished exactly on time due to professional organization by the Toastmaster of the meeting and good time management demonstrated by the speakers and role masters.

Evaluations:

10. Alexey Kudashev, the Personal Evaluator of Evgenia Maseeva started the evaluations part by saying that Evgenia's Icebreaker was a terrific job! Indeed, it was an excellent speech. Actually, her speech is a good example which our guests who would like to become members should follow. Alexey pointed out the following:

- + good body language;*
- + interesting story;*
- + wonderful preparation;*
- lack of pauses.*

It should be noted that the evaluation was well worth the speech itself. Alexey did a wonderful job himself. His style of evaluation is very distinctive and memorable. Good job, Evgeniya and Alexey!

11. The Personal Evaluator of Dmitry Chebotarevsky's Project #3 was **Denis Shevchuk**. We all like to listen to Dmitry's projects and this speech was not an exception. He touched upon a generally applicable topic of career and everything that he told us was very useful! Denis Shevchuk also appreciated the project. He mentioned the following:

- + Dmitry's business like style;*
- + using pictures to drive the point home;*
- + giving theory and concluding with a personal story, like in a book;*
- it would be better to stop using notes;*
- the speech would benefit from additional rehearsal.*

12. Margarita Ryndina, AC-B, proceeded with evaluation of Igor Vinogradov's speech. First of all, she congratulated Igor with his recovery. We all join Margarita in wishing Igor to fully recover as soon as possible. Igor made a very touching speech, which was impossible to ignore. We were all waiting for Igor to return to the club and finally he is again with us! Margarita noted the following:

- + vivid, descriptive words, so that we could see and feel the awful event that happened to him;*
- + short and easily understandable sentences;*
- + usage of rhetorical devices;*
- after the beginning, the speech went downhill.*

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13. The **Table Topics Master** this time was **Valeria Kulnevskaya**, an active and perspective member of our club! Valeria was very well-prepared for this job and we had a really interesting discussion dedicated to elections. We discussed very serious problems, including:

- What do people want to get when they want to get an administrative position?
- Do you think that a person has an opportunity to change something?
- Do you think that abstaining from voting represents the opinion of the person?
- Are we able to improve the process of elections?

Alla Oganova won the discussion with a speech on abstaining from voting.

Our next meeting is on June, 3rd!

We are going to have a **SPEECH CONTEST** which happened last time in 2006! Are in for the Olympics?

Read more about the Contest and the Contestants in the **News** section of this newsletter!

See you soon!

Points:

Henry Norman, AC-S <i>(Toastmaster)</i>	8.6
Evgeniya Maseeva <i>(Speaker 1)</i>	9.2
Dmitry Chebotarevsky <i>(Speaker 2)</i>	8.8
Igor Vinogradov <i>(Speaker 3)</i>	9.4
Alexey Kudashev, CC <i>(Personal Evaluator 1)</i>	9.6
Denis Shevchuk <i>(Personal Evaluator 2)</i>	8.8
Margarita Ryndina, AC-B <i>(Personal Evaluator 3)</i>	9.2
Valeria Kholodkova, CC, AL-B <i>(General Evaluator)</i>	9.4
Valeria Kulnevskaya <i>(Table Topics Master)</i>	7.5
Meeting as a whole	8.9

**OUR WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR DEAR
FELLOW!!!**



Ilya Volin (June 1st)



News!

Dear members and guests! The **Speech Contest** is coming and it's time to announce the Contestants and other participants!

This Thursday, **June 3rd**, we will hear 9 projects, each 5 to 7 minutes at length. They will be delivered by these Moscow Free Speakers:

- **Valentin Novikov**
- **Natalia Radaykina**
- **Syah Akhtar Mat Ali, CC**
- **Denis Shevchuk**
- **Sergey Kuzin, AC-B**
- **Lilia Nurutdinova**
- **Alexey Kravtsun**
- **Dmitry Chebotarevsky**
- **Alexey Kudashev, CC**

The **judges** are:

- **Valeria Kholodkova, CC, AL-B (Chief Judge)**
- **Alla Oganova, CC**
- **Larissa Zorina, CL, AC-B**
- **Igor Vinogradov**

Timers are:

- **Olga Filimonova**
- **Ekaterina Sidorenko**

We hope to see you all on June 3rd and let make it a great meeting!

JoKE of the meeting:

Once a therapist, a psychiatrist, a surgeon and a coroner decided to go to a duck hunt. So they went to a lake, hid in the reeds and started waiting. As they had just one rifle, they decided to take turns to shoot.

The first one was the therapist. A duck appeared and started flying past them. The therapist took aim and started thinking: "Now it's a duck. But ... is it? Could it be a peacock, or an owl...?" While he was thinking, the duck flew away.

Then was the turn of the psychiatrist. Another duck appeared. The psychiatrist took aim and started thinking: "It's a duck. I know it's a duck. But does the duck know that it's a duck...?" And again the duck flew away.

The surgeon took the rifle. A bird appeared. The surgeon went BANG – shot the bird right away, turned to the coroner and told him: "Go check whether it's a duck".

by Denis Shevchuk