



Extreme Toastmasters #595201
District 30, Chicago

The Online Public Speaking Library

By Club Secretary, Kealah Parkinson

Members of this Toastmasters club aren't offended by the phrase "extreme behavior." We exhibit it each week at our regular meetings by being dedicated to self-improvement in the realms of communication and leadership.

Just ask our club President Tim Wilson: Meeting every Wednesday evening for two hours to hone his skills may be enough for some, but not for him. Having been a member of Extreme Toastmasters since its inception, he's also served as the club's mentor and in every officer role that exists—including President—*multiple times*. And as if that doesn't show extreme dedication to the Toastmasters principles, Tim also participates in area club contests; has served as an officer at higher levels of the organization; often participates in district conferences in a variety of roles; and even spends his personal time sharing speaking tips on TV, in DVD videos and online.

Approximately eighty percent of American adults use the internet. Factor in Americans of every age and that number certainly goes higher. Meanwhile, one hundred percent of people everywhere communicate somehow.

For those of us who fall into both categories (communicative internet users), Tim has created The Public Speaking Library.

This blog, found at www.speakingquicktips.blogspot.com, houses nearly 1,300 posts from the last three years on many detailed aspects of public speaking and general communication. From "How to Video Your Speech" (Feb. 2010) to "Reading to the Audience" (Dec. 2008) to last month's "Call Back the Great Speeches," Tim uses video links and quick text blurbs to make points that can be used as rules of thumb by every speaker. Use the blog's "search" option to seek out areas you want to know more about. This makes a great tool for continuing your practice between meetings.

How extreme is your behavior when it comes to improving your communication style? If you aren't already a member, try Extreme Toastmasters to go like Tim: forward—far—today. ★



Extreme Toastmasters Club President Tim Wilson shares weekly tips online for pro to amateur speakers, and often contributes to *Extremely*.