
The Oasis Post

Newsletter of Oasis Toastmasters Club

Volume I – July 2002



Word from the Editors

The Oasis Toastmasters Club is proud to present the founding issue of "The Oasis Post". The Oasis Post is the official newsletter of our club, and through it, we plan to bring you the latest happenings and excitement of our club. More importantly, we hope to integrate you into part of our future activities. With the club being officially chartered in April 2002, a new executive committee was installed. Below is a summary of the platform speech made by the President, Edmund Ho, at the inauguration ceremony on July 8, 2002.

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President

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Editors

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Oasis Meetings

Every 2nd & 4th Monday, 7pm
at the Parc Oasis Clubhouse,
23 Parc Oasis Road, Yau Yat
Chuen, Kowloon Tong

Email:

Oasis_toastmasters@hotmail.com

President's Foreword

Today, I am very honored and proud to be elected President of this brand new club. The club has been through a lot of difficulties over the past year, and to be able to stand here to make my platform speech in front of the audience, I must express my appreciation to my predecessor for doing such a marvelous job. I am confident with the unstinting support of all the members I can continue to turn Oasis into one of the best clubs in the District.

Our common goal is to advance and to achieve, our maxim is therefore "We Excel Together". To achieve this, we have outlined an activity plan over the next 12 months, which includes team-building exercises, speakathons, a speechcraft and the launching of our web site. We also plan to organize regular group visits to other Toastmasters clubs to broaden our exposure and foster ties. Upon the completion of my term, we plan to issue a yearbook to record all the fond memories and outstanding speeches. Our Executive Committee would ensure all members that when we look back a year from now, we will have attained our objectives and feel proud of our achievements.

Finally, I would like to thank Flora Wai and Deborah Yu for creating Oasis, and turning it sound and healthy. I promise all members that I will do my best for the club.

Edmund Ho, *President*

Speechcraft Graduation Ceremony April 2002



Standing from the left: Talis Wong (*Immediate Past District Governor*), Edmund Ho (*President*), Stanley Wan (*Treasurer*), Sam Chiu (*VPPR*), Tam Kin Fai (*SAA*), Lam Chiu Ying (*SAA*).

Sitting from the left; Martha Chan, Florence Hui (*VPPR*), Flora Wai (*IPP*), Deborah Yu (*Immediate Past Area H6 Governor*), Teky Cheng, Talia Yung (*VPE*), Christine Lau (*VPM*)

The Oasis Speechcraft came to a conclusion upon the graduation ceremony which took place on April 20 at the Helena May. Attended by an audience of 70, students were presented with graduation certificates by founding president, Flora Wai. The three-hour ceremony also witnessed the official chartering of the Oasis Toastmasters Club.

The Speechcraft marked the turning point for a club that once ran into serious financial difficulties, and was on the verge of closing down. Plagued by a lack of members and poor attendance, Oasis has been struggling ever since it was spun off from Centraler Toastmasters Club in March 2001. The Speechcraft, a public-speaking course, was a last effort to save the club after several rescue attempts failed. Planning for Speechcraft started in September 2001, but due to limited resources, Flora Wai (President) and Deborah Yu (Area H6 Governor) single-handedly undertook the project. With strong determination of keeping the club afloat, they assumed roles ranging from marketing, recruitment, flyer design to course-outlining and mentors; managing every piece of details in the process. The effort proved fruitful as a total of 41 students enrolled in the course.

Nine classes were conducted every Monday evening throughout January to mid-March. Speakers such as Barnabas Cheung, Herbert Lee and Talis Wong were invited along with contest champions, Donald Yee, Taffline Yew and Martin Wray, to give workshops and demo speeches. Students were highly motivated by the high quality course, and took a lot of initiatives in participating in every speaking opportunity. In the end, students' response to the course was very positive, and showed considerable improvements in their public-speaking skills.

Upon the conclusion of Speechcraft, an encouraging number of 17 students joined the club and eventually became core members of the new ex-com. Oasis has since turned itself from a financially distressed club, to one that is healthy and strong; from a club that was highly dependent on its sister clubs, to one that stands firmly by itself. The club is in sharp contrast to what it was, meetings are now well attended, speech slots are quickly taken up and quality of speeches has shown improvement.

Having a good start is important but to have a wonderful journey down the road, we still need your support. Come and join us ... your participation means a lot to a young and energetic club !

Macau Team-building

The Macau team-building took place at the New World Emperor Hotel over the weekend of July 6-7. A total of 32 participants signed up for the two-day exercise conducted by King Kwok. King has been a member of Hong Kong & Centraler Toastmasters clubs for many years, and is a very experience trainer. King has previously conducted similar types of training for other Toastmasters clubs.



The training is primarily intended for the newly formed executive committees of Toastmasters, as the exercise provides an opportunity for them to familiarize each other, and in the process, strengthen the bonding and foster good working relationships. Other than Oasis from which a majority of the ex-com was represented, core members from Kowloon & ex-Area H6 were also present.

Training commenced as soon as we got off the boat on a sunny Saturday afternoon. Curriculum of the exercise largely surrounded teamwork, leadership and communication skills, and took the form of games and role-play. Participants were extremely involved and motivated during the sessions. Initiatives were strong and team spirit was high. Concepts such as 4As and Belbin's team roles were taught and demonstrated. Experience-sharing and debriefing were conducted at the end of each session. Most participants felt it was extremely rewarding and enjoyable, and not only did they get to understand their team members better, but they also gained more insight into themselves. Lastly, a word of thanks to King for contributing so much of his time and effort to conduct the workshop, and also Edmond Ho and Christine Lau, President and VPM of Oasis respectively, for organizing the event.

Activities Diary 2002

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
August 8	Club visit to Bauhinia Toastmasters	Scout Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui
10	Oasis Speakathon	Cavendish Heights, Jardine's Lookout
31	Team Building Module I I	Kowloon Cricket Club*
September 16	Club visit to Hong Kong Toastmasters	Regal Meridien Hotel, Causeway Bay
October 17	Club visit to Dynamic Toastmasters	Empire Hotel, Wanchai
21	Speechcraft Commence	Parc Oasis Clubhouse
26	Division Contest	TBA
November 16	Oasis Speakathon	TBA
December 24*	Christmas Party	Mandarin Oriental Hotel

**tentative*



English Public Speaking Course



Organized by
Oasis Toastmasters Club

Oasis Toastmasters Club is a chartered member of Toastmasters International, a US non-profit organization, dedicated to making effective oral communication worldwide. Website: toastmasters.org

Course Information

Curriculum Outline:

To be a confident speaker and conquer the fear
Impromptu speaking skills
Be a charismatic MC
Debating skills
Use of visual aids and props

Date & Time:

Every Monday 7-9pm, commencing October 21 to December 16, 2002
(9 classes)

Venue :

Function Room, Parc Oasis Clubhouse I, 23 Parc Oasis Road, Yau Yat Chuen, Kowloon Tong (5-10 minutes walk from Kowloon Tong MTR Exit C1)

Tuition Fees:

\$1,200
Includes 9 classes + 1 free public speaking contest visit + free membership of Oasis Toastmasters Club for Jan to Mar 2003

Admission Requirement:

Aged 18 or above with reasonable English proficiency

Enrolment Deadline:

October 11, 2002

For further details, please call 8208 0340, or email: chrislai8@hotmail.com