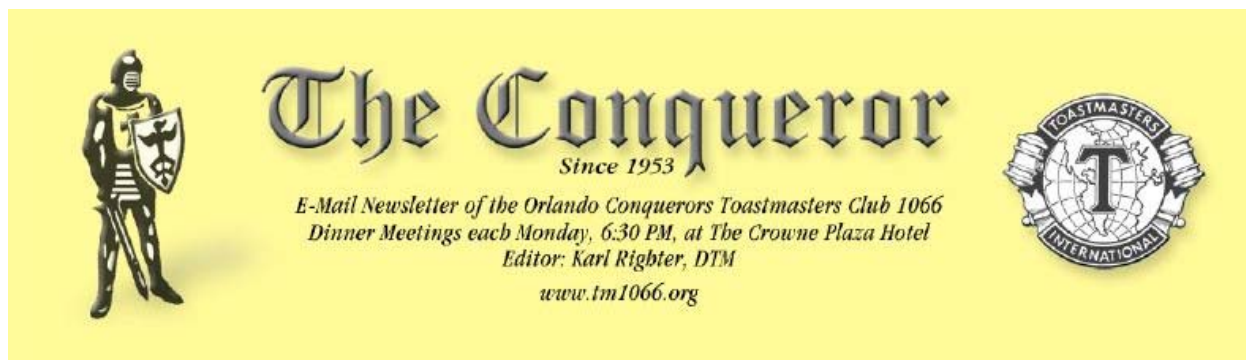


From: "Karl Richter" <karl@richter.com>
To: "Karl Richter" <karl@richter.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009 4:41 PM
Subject: Conqueror Weekly - December 7, 2009 - big Holiday Party Monday!



December 7, 2009

Karl Richter, DTM, Editor



Conquerors held its semi-annual election of incoming officers December 7 for the Spring term January 1st through June 30th. **Chris Rainaldi**, our current Sergeant-at-Arms, will lead our new board which features three returning officers and five new ones. Here is your new executive board:

President: Chris Rainaldi
EVP: Nathan Meloon
VP/Membership: Dana Kowen
VP/Public Relations: Marlee Ward
Webmaster/Monthly Editor: Jerome Kalisz, ATM-G
Secretary: Paula Hickman, CTM
Treasurer: Enon Winkler
Sergeant-at-Arms: Christine Sheridan
Weekly Editor: Troy Sands, CC

Our sincere thanks to returning officers **Troy Sands, CC, Dana Kowen**, and **Jerome Kalisz, ATM-G**, and congratulations to our new board members.

Awards & Installation Holiday Party Monday!

Our new officers will take the baton this coming Monday Night at our Semi-Annual Awards & Installation Banquet & Holiday Party, continuing our quest to once again become a President's Distinguished Club. This big event will be in the main restaurant (similar to the arrangement we had for the speech contests this term for those of you who were there). Consequently, we have the perfect venue for a big turnout and fine dining!

Our keynote speaker will be **Tom Kemper, ATM-B** from our sister club, Winter Park Toastmasters. A past International Speech Contest winner and Humorous Speech Champion, Tom is an inspirational and entertaining speaker that you won't want to miss. **Jerome Kalisz, ATM-G** has some fun holiday entertainment planned as well.

Remember to bring your spouses, significant others, and friends as this is one of those don't-want-to-miss events!

Semi-annual awards a rich tradition

For 56 years, Orlando Conquerors has been one of the most decorated clubs in all of Toastmasters International. We have consistently been a President's Distinguished Club, and were once ranked #1 in the world in 1999. The club's banner displayed at the meetings is actually our third banner. Two others, loaded with awards, were lost over the years.

These awards have a rich tradition and were made possible by the efforts of individual members, of whom the brightest stars from each term's administration are honored at the Semi-Annual Awards & Installation Banquet.

Following are the six awards presented at these semi-annual events:

Cameron Lusk Outstanding Toastmaster Award
The Bull Trophy (for excellence in communications)
The Demosthenes Award (most improved Toastmaster)
Bullseye Trophy (for consistently hitting the mark)

Fireball Trophy (most weekly wins of this discretionary award)
Fun & Pun Award (most weekly wins of this discretionary award)



Meeting recap – December 7, 2009

Best Speaker: Marlee Ward
Best Evaluator: Jerome Kalisz, ATM-G
Best Table Topic: Marlee Ward
Most Improved: Sheldon Kagel
Bullseye: Marlee Ward
Fireball Award: John Pabon
Fun & Pun: Paula Hickman, CTM

Attendance: 18
Guests: 2
Meals ordered: 10
Last Word: 7



Program line-up – Awards Banquet

Monday is our big event of the term...the Semi-Annual Awards & Installation Banquet at which we honor our leaders and present well-earned awards. It's also our annual holiday party to which we are encouraged to invite our spouses and guests. Here is the agenda for our big event:

Pledge: Chris Rainaldi

Toastmaster: Karl Righter, DTM

Keynote Speaker: Tom Kemper, ATM-B

Holiday entertainment: Jerome Kalisz, ATM-G

Recess for dinner

Semi-Annual Awards: Troy Sands, CC, outgoing president

Orchids & Onions: Troy Sands, CC, outgoing president

Installation of Officers: Scott Hoehn, DTM, District 84 Lt. Governor, Education & Training

Inaugural Address: Chris Rainaldi, incoming president

Adjourn to The Last Word



Calendar of Events (mark your planners)

- December 13 – **Geminid Meteor Shower** – Susan Culey's home, 9:00 PM, 2401 Dickson Avenue, Orlando, 32806. Susan's phone #: 407-896-9468.

Directions: Exit I-4 at Kaley and travel East to Ferncreek. Turn right and travel about five traffic lights to Page. Joy Church is on the corner. Turn left on Page and travel until it dead-ends into Dickson. Turn right, and Susan's house is the second one on the left. There will be some refreshments, so please RSVP (407-896-9468) so Susan knows how many to plan for.

- December 14 – **Semi-Annual Awards & Installation Banquet** – Crowne Plaza
This is our big event. Spouses and significant others are encouraged to attend and help us celebrate a successful term and the approaching holiday season, 6:30 PM.
- December 21 & 28 – **No Meetings** – Holiday break
- January 4, 2010 – **First meeting of the new term**



"Notable Quotes" – December 7, 2009

"There's a town in Arizona called Snow Flake. Somewhat of an oxymoron!" - **Rick Hudnett**, Toastmaster of the Evening, from his holiday-themed program

"Our words frame our world." - **Susan Culey**, from her excellent speech about about surviving stress

"There *is* a 'me' in team!" - Topic Master **Karl Righter, DTM**, responding to **Nancy Humberson's** topic about leadership, in which she stated "there is no 'I' in team."

"I call them *unique opportunities!*" - **Marlee Ward**, during her winning speech about dealing with crises.

"Then we have a problem, Karl!" - **Paula Hickman, CTM**, responding to Topic Master **Karl Righter's** statement, "if two people agree on everything, then one of them is unnecessary!"

"Medical billing software doesn't kill people. High doctor bills generated by medical billing software kills people!" - Toastmaster **Rick Hudnett**, reading from Master Evaluator **Scott Hoehn's** introduction. Scott owns Ability Technical Services, a company that sells medical billing software.

"Can I be frank with you? No wait, I'm John!" - **John Pabon**, prefacing his evaluation of **Susan Culey**

"When you play country music backwards, you get your wife, your dog, and your pick-up truck back!" - speaker **Susan Culey**, explaining one of the remedies for beating life's challenges

"Life is not all roses and rainbows!" - **Susan Culey**



Toastmaster Chatter

• **Welcome back!** – Past member **John Pabon** paid an unexpected visit to our club Monday Night, stepped up to fill a vacant evaluator position, and earned the *Fireball Award* for his efforts. John hopes to be more regular in the coming year.

• **Shooting stars** – OK, we're not referring to movie celebrities doing drugs, and shooting stars aren't really stars...they're meteorites burning up in our atmosphere, as we learned from avid astronomer **Sheldon Kagel** during Monday's Last Word. Sheldon, who earned the Most Improved ribbon earlier that evening for his informative speech about telescopes, is co-hosting a get-together at **Susan Culey's** home Sunday evening to view the annual Geminid meteor shower.

"This will be a better than usual appearance," says Sheldon. "We could be able to see as many as 100 per hour in a dark sky location." Those who are interested in joining Sheldon and Susan are welcome to drop by, probably around 9:00 PM. Susan's address is: 2401 Dickson Avenue, Orlando, 32806. Susan's phone #: 407-896-9468. Bring your own reclining beach chair for comfortable viewing. See Calendar above for directions.



The Nightmare Before Christmas

A tale of a past officer installation

'Twas the week before Christmas, when all through the club,
Not a speaker was speaking, not even a sub.

Our leaders were anxious, they managed with care,
In hopes their replacements soon would be there.

A party was staged to affect the transition,
It was time for awards and some earned recognition.

But our outgoing leaders had gone to the bar,
With visions of grandeur, vacations, and cars,

While the rest of the members in anticipation
Had just settled down for my long installation.

When out in the lounge there arose such a clatter
I sprang from the dais to see what was the matter.

Away toward the racket I ran with my gavel,
Where quickly I realized our plans had unraveled.

For what to my horrified eyes should appear,
But a pub full of officers chugging cheap beer!

Our board of directors, who soon faced extinction,
Were toasting each other with greatly slurred diction.

The members were waiting, all hungry and restless,
This had truly become the Nightmare before Christmas.

So I grabbed the incumbents – their faces I slapped,
And back to the banquet like lame ducks they flapped.

With a twitch of my nose came a brilliant deduction,
We've got them all here, why not start the induction!

So I turned to the outgoing chiefs as they came,
And I whistled, and shouted, and called them by name,

Out Marcus, out Robert, out Danny and Doris,
Out Leslie, and Bobby, and Michael and Morris.

You've served the club well but it's time for the chimney,
Take a bow, take a hike, why not head out to Disney!

Then I turned to the incoming officers next,
And continued to read from my still lengthy text,

One by one they were charged to begin the long trek,
To show up at the meetings, to pick up our checks!

Now Randall, now David, and Emily too,
On Roland, on Johnny, here's looking at you!

You are hereby installed, let your praises be sung,
But the red light is on and there's more to be done.

So I bid all farewell, and a No-Doz or two,
'Cause there's plenty more speaking before we get through.

And I heard them exclaim as they raised their Bud Lights,
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

- *Karl Richter, DTM*