



# CanOrators

## Communique

### CanOrators Toastmasters Club

District 42, Club # 6823

Volume 1, Issue 1

Winter 2003/2004

Special New Year's Edition

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#### Executive Team

##### Immediate Past President

Linda Green

##### President

Theresa McGarry

##### VP Education

Judy Mooney/ Rupinder Sidhu

##### VP Membership

Wendy Fitzpatrick

##### VP Public Relations

Julie Skibington

##### Treasurer

Tricia Mulder

##### Sergeant-At-Arms

Cathy Kennedy

**The CanOrators  
Toastmasters Club meets  
every Thursday from  
12:00pm to 1:00pm**

##### Room 2813 at EnCana Place

150 – 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta

Visit us on the web at:

<http://canorators.tripod.com>

*"The mission of a Toastmaster club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth"*

### *A Message from the Editor*

Christmas has passed and the New Year is just beginning. This is the time of year to reflect upon the events of the past year and to look forward to what may come in the future.

Our club came into being eight years ago and it continues to grow and change with each passing year. This past year has brought a new Executive Board, a change in name for the club, a new website and e-group as well as many rewarding experiences.

It is my pleasure to present another new aspect of the club: The *CanOrators Communique*, our official newsletter!

The purpose of the *CanOrators Communique* is to keep all members up to date on what is happening within the club, to celebrate our achievements and to provide helpful tips for leadership, communication and public speaking skills.

Some regular features you will see in future issues include:

- **Did you know?** – Fun facts and figures
- **Member Profile** – In each issue, one member will be profiled. This is a great way to get to know your fellow members!
- **TM Tips** – Learn something new about communication, leadership and public speaking!
- **Grammarian's Corner** – Increase your vocabulary with interesting words.

This issue is a special issue in that we will be taking a detailed look at the highlights from 2003. Future issues will be shorter and issued quarterly.

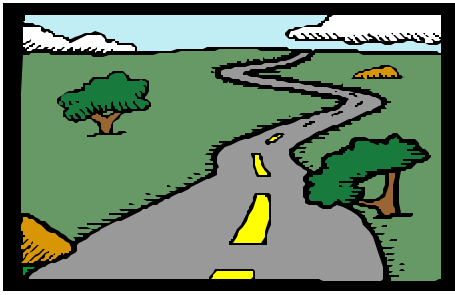
**We want to know how we're doing!** Your CanOrator Executive Team wants to hear your feedback on the things the club is doing now, and what other initiatives you might be interested in. A survey will be sent to you during the week of January 19<sup>th</sup> that can be filled out electronically or via hard copy and sent back to Theresa by February 5, 2004.

Please watch for and fill out the survey to help us make our club even better!

*Let us make 2004 another groundbreaking year for CanOrators!*

***Julie Skibington***

Vice President ~ Public Relations



## *A Walk Down Memory Lane...*

### Remembering 2003

*The year 2003 was a very productive year for the club. Let us review the highlights of the past year with hopes of achieving great things this year!*

#### Spring 2003

#### **Distinguished President's Club Awarded to PanOrators/CanOrators (Judy)**

For the past three years CanOrators has been awarded the highest recognition by Toastmasters International known as the Presidents Distinguished Club award. This comes in the form of a ribbon that we place on our banner. To be recognized for this award a club must complete 9 out of a possible 10 goals which every Toastmasters club in the world works towards. CanOrators has completed the full 10 possible goals for all three years.

This was first accomplished under the leadership of BJ in the year 2000-2001, secondly by Judy in 2001-2002 and thirdly by Linda G. in 2002-2003. The bar has been raised for our President Theresa this year. It is our goal once again to reach this level of excellence and at the end of December, we're halfway there!

To sum up the goals we will submit this year are, 4 CTM's, 2 ATM'S, 2 CL'S, AL'S, or DTM's, 8 new members, complete officer training and submit semi annual renewals for membership on time.

Congratulations CanOrators for excelling in club excellence. Every member helps make this a reality as we do our speeches and bring in new members. Keep up the good work!

#### **Judy Receives Neil Wilkinson Award for Distinguished President (Judy)**

The Neil Wilkinson Award was created in 1995-96 to recognize the Club President who displayed true leadership during his/her term as President. I was very honored to be chosen by District 42 to receive this award in April 2003.

The credit goes out to this club for promoting and supporting me.

When the announcement came over the company web I received an email message from our Company CEO followed by several fellow employees. This truly has raised the awareness of Toastmasters throughout the company. Thanks again for this honor.



Jacqueline S., Past District Governor for Area 42, awards Judy with the Distinguished President Award at the 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

## Summer 2003

### **Name change: CanOrators gets christened! (Theresa)**

When EnCana Corporation asked us to change our name earlier this year, it was indeed a difficult step for us to take. We had all become so attached to the name "PanOrators" it was hard to imagine us being called anything else! And what about all the trophies, awards, banners, and other insignia that proudly announced to the world that PanOrators was a great club! Well, we soon got to work on coming up with some creative new names, and the response was overwhelming. We managed to narrow it down to about 5 names that were voted on, and 3 of them were close cousins of our old name (CanOrators, ParOrators, ExplOrators). There was so much brand loyalty invested in our old name that members didn't want to change it too much. In the end, CanOrators easily won - and interestingly, two people had independently come up with it. So, you can thank Rick and Judy for each dreaming up our proud new name.

### **The Club Celebrates it's 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Style! (BJ)**



The PanOrators celebrated a milestone 8th Anniversary party on May 15, 2003. The festivities were held in the E9 28th floor panoramic boardroom. Former, past and current members along with special guest Toast Masters (Charlotte H., Jeanette S., Jacquie S., with comments from Noel S). enjoyed the wonderful pot luck buffet.

Like a true PanOrator, Mitch C. put in some extra effort in finding a special toastmaster logo cake. Our meeting toastmaster, Carolyn K. assured the club that she was committed to obtaining her ATM-G and DTM awards which were instrumental in helping us maintain a perfect 10 out of 10 club success plan record for 3 straight years in a row.

At our party, Rupinder had the honor of announcing our new club name - CanOrators. All attendees left with a commemorative PanOrator anniversary booklet created by Judy M., which contained the entire history of our club, and also received a certificate created by BJ. It was an extraordinary meeting as Jacquie presented Judy with the District 42 President of the Year Award. Wendy F. captured our special moments on her digital camera.

### **Station 29 visits (Theresa)**

Over the summer, we had an exchange visit with one of our Area 43 sister clubs - Station 29. The idea behind the visits was to get outside our normal meeting environments and meet some other toastmasters. The visits were a great success! Each club brought about seven of their members to a special guest meeting with the other club, and we enjoyed extra long table topic sessions to maximize participation. Everybody had a great time, and said it was great to see another club in action, and learn some new tips and tricks. Watch out for future exchange visits that we will organize with other Area 43 clubs in the new year.

## Fall 2003

### **Humorous speech success - again, again and again! (Theresa)**

Once again, CanOrators took the Division J Humorous Speech award for 2003-4. Way to go Harvey! This is the fourth year in a row that we've won this award, because Judy won it the previous three years. Judy couldn't enter this year because she is an area governor, but she said having a fellow CanOrator win was almost as good as winning it herself!



BJ, Carolyn, Harvey, Theresa and Judy celebrate Harvey's victory

### **Highlights from the Area Conference in Regina (Judy)**

November 7-9 marked the weekend for the District Annual Fall Conference. As usual, several CanOrators attended the event. Carolyn was there along with Harvey who represented our club in the Humorous speech contest. He did us proud!

I was especially excited to be able to take with me Cathy Kennedy one of our newest members, to share in the experience. Friday night is a time to get acquainted with Toastmasters from all of Saskatchewan and Alberta. The theme this year was sports in keeping with the Grey Cup. There we were in our jerseys and painted faces. It is a wonder we remembered anyone we met, we all looked so different the next morning.

I treasure the chance to attend these events. I am always inspired by the speakers that come in. Our Keynote speaker this year was both humorous and inspirational. It was Joan McCusker, a member of Canada's curling team who won the gold medal. Her Keynote address was entitled, "Ordinary People do Extraordinary things". She ended her talk with the top ten reasons curling is better than sex.

Besides the speakers, there are many education sessions, beautiful banquets and speech contests. It was my first time to attend the Governors Banquet as an Area Governor. Each Area Governor and Division Governor are introduced as they come into their reserved seating area at the front.

Several Toastmasters are honoured by the District for their accomplishments. Every event is well planned and the best people in the District perform the roles. As I sit in the audience I am inspired and motivated to try more roles and experience more in Toastmasters outside of the club.

I challenge all of you to come out this Spring when the Convention comes to Calgary April 23-25 and try it out!

### **CanOrators Launches its New Website and Egroup (Julie)**

In October of 2003, CanOrators launched its new website. It was received with many compliments by the membership. At this time, it is being hosted for free by Tripod, as a trial before we decide whether or not to buy a domain of our own. The website is located at <http://canorators.tripod.com>. Thanks to all who helped with the creation of the website!

Along with the website was the launching of a Yahoo!™ Egroup for all members of CanOrators. The Egroup features secure member sign in, a files section where all of our club business is posted, such as: executive meeting minutes and monthly Toastmaster meeting schedules, a polling station for voting on issues, a message board where members may communicate and the convenience of being internet based for all to access, no matter where they work, and a photo album where club pictures may be posted.

### **Winter 2003**

#### **First Newsletter Planned (Julie)**

Winter brought with it the planning of our newsletter, which has now been released for the first time. It will be distributed to all members as well as being posted in PDF format on our website. The editorial staff has taken care to only use first names and will only use photographs with the permission of those featured in the photographs.

#### **CanOrators Celebrates Christmas with Style! (Cathy)**

Well this year we had a great Christmas meeting. With the feedback we have received it seems everyone enjoyed themselves. We had 28 people in attendance of which most had to try and outdo the next on why their gift was the best one!

Thanks to everyone for helping to make this meeting such a success!



“Judy Claus” calls out numbers for the White Reindeer Gift Exchange

## *Announcements*

The executive and membership of CanOrators would like to congratulate **Linda G.** on her retirement in November 2003!

**Julie S.** would like to announce her engagement, which occurred on December 25, 2003. The wedding is set for September of 2004.

Congratulations to **Judy M.** and her husband who celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in September.

Congratulations to **Brant D.** on the start of his new law enforcement career!

*Do you have special news that you would like to share with the club?  
Please contact Julie S. with the information you would like published.*

## Upcoming Events

**January 24, 2004 –  
Club Officer Training**  
The Learning Institute – Shell  
Conference Centre, Calgary

**March 2004 –  
CanOrator Club contest for  
Evaluations and  
International Speech**  
(Date to be announced)

**March 2004 –  
Area 43 Contest for  
Evaluations and  
International Speech**  
(Date to be announced)

**March/April, 2004 –  
Division J Contest for  
Evaluations and  
International Speech**  
(Date to be announced)

**April 23 – 25, 2004 –  
District 42 Spring  
Convention**  
Glenmore Inn, Calgary

## *Member Milestones ~ 2003*



Judy – ATM Bronze – March 2003

Wendy – CTM – April 2003

Wendy – CL – July 2003

Carolyn – ATM Gold – May 2003

Carolyn – DTM – June 2003

Harvey – CL – July 2003

### *Welcome New Members! (Since July 2003)*

Leanne T, Sara Y, Al G, Margaret G, Rae H, Sean C, Brant D, Marbella P

### *Goodbye Departing Members...we'll miss you! (Since July 2003)*

Grace L, John P, Lynda W, Weimin Z, Gord O, Sharon C, Leanne T, Brant D