

BACK ON TRACK!

A summer breeze on a heavenly beach, you sipping a colorful cocktail on a comfy lounge chair while listening to a mesmerizing Bossa Nova standard. Am I disturbing you? Well, I'm sure you've lived this magical moment in your precious summer break however now it's time to **get back to real life** guys and gals!

I hope you've enjoyed your holidays and that you are fit and well because a number of exciting opportunities await you this year. First of all, I'm sure that there are things you intend to do better or not to do anymore, like never more let yourself be overwhelmed by your stressful job or silly obligations. You probably want to create a nice balance between your personal, professional and social life and Toastmasters can help you in that!

As you all know, being a Toastmaster implies managing your time and improving your personal skills. So here we go! As a Toastmaster, you've chosen to be part of a **very special community**, a community where you can express yourself freely and effectively. Don't miss out on the opportunity to improve your language, communication and leadership skills because this year our club has **many challenges** for you.

"THE MORE THE MERRIER"

This year, your board has decided to:

- invest in a subscription on **Meet Up** to have more visitors. Hopefully some of them will want to stay onboard with us and enjoy our exciting adventures ...
- participate, (for the second year running) in the **"Carrefour des Associations" at la Mairie de Lyon 6ème on 10th September. We need volunteers to give us a hand.** Let's share this day together by giving a couple of hours each. The aim is to let people know how exciting and rewarding it is to be part of our club. Don't forget to register on the doodle.

"FUN EVENT"

During the break end October/November (All Saints'/Halloween) our VPM, Laura, is going to organize a **social event**, so that members will be able to meet up in a cozier atmosphere. It will be the opportunity for members to exchange in a fun atmosphere over a drink and maybe even play games! Stay tuned for the date - coming soon!

"GRATITUDE IS THE HEART'S MEMORY"

On September the 10th and 11th, our club is expected to give a hand to the British Council who is participating in **"Fêtes Consulaires"** Place Bellecour. Let's give them a hand to show them our gratefulness for hosting our sessions for free and their warm welcome twice a month. Please do not forget to sign up on the Doodle.

"I'M NOT IN COMPETITION WITH ANYBODY BUT MYSELF. MY GOAL IS TO BEAT MY LAST PERFORMANCE."

- On **September 20th**, our club is opening its doors to members and visitors including the Meet up new group, it is the occasion **to shine and entertain the audience** as Toastmasters should. The big difference is that the evening will be devoted to our Humorous and Table Topics Speech Contest. We rely on your active participation to dazzle the large audience with wonderful, funny and creative performances. "So far, it looks like we **desperately** need more judges and table topic contestants. Many people from the Meetup group have already signed up for this special event, we don't want to disappoint them, do we? So, please make sure you sign up to be a contestant and if possible, also for a role with our VPE, Suzanne (Barratt.suzanne@neuf.fr – 06 80 67 32 92).

"IN LEARNING YOU WILL TEACH, AND IN TEACHING YOU WILL LEARN. "

- Suzanne (VPE) will also make sure that everyone interested in being mentored finds his/her mentor within a very short period of time of joining the club. If you are interested in being mentored or in mentoring either a new comer or an experienced toastmaster, please fill out the form Suzanne forwarded to you and see what comes out of it!! I'm sure that this mentoring experience will help you bond closer ties with your partners and learn a lot about yourself.

"LIVE AS IF YOU WERE TO DIE TOMORROW. LEARN AS IF YOU WERE TO LIVE FOREVER. "

- In view of the regional evaluation speech contest next spring, we are going to organize a major educational event in January 2017 in order to improve our evaluation skills. Do not miss out this opportunity, save the date as soon as it is communicated.

I hope you enjoy this year's program! Let's meet soon as we have plenty to tell each other and lots of toasts and speeches to prepare and to give....

**I WISH YOU ALL A GREAT TOASTMASTERS YEAR WITH
Lyon English Toastmasters
AND REMEMBER TO LET IT HAPPEN!**