

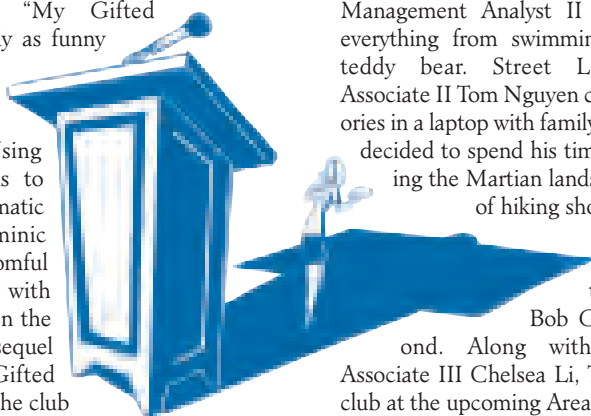
Toastmasters Are Ready

■ Public Works Toastmaster group gets ready for contests.

PUBLIC WORKS — In preparation to enter the Toastmasters International Area 43 Humorous Speech and Table Topics Speech Contest in October, Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters held its second annual Humorous Speech Contest and the second annual Table Topics Speech Contest in August.

Three Toastmaster members each delivered a uniquely challenging speech. Management Analyst II Ivan Gerson; Civil Engineering Associate III Chelsea Li; and Civil Engineering Associate IV Dominic Buenaventura competed in the second annual Humorous Speech Contest.

Ivan, famous for his wit, entertained the audience with a blustering, comic take on the Parliamentary Procedure in flying action. Chelsea made "My Gifted Husband" equally as funny as her previous award winning speech, "An Ideal Wife." Using his singing skills to project his dramatic voice, Dominic stirred up a roomful of laughter with "Laugh It Off." In the end, Chelsea's sequel piece, "My Gifted Husband," won the club contest.



The surprise topic for our member contestants

at the Table Topics Speech Contest was "What three things within 25 pounds would you bring with you to live in Mars?" Five brave explorers put their best endeavor in a response that was minimally two-and-a-half minutes to a maximum five minutes long. Geotech Engineer I Bob Gallagher, Management Analyst II Michael Sloss, Civil Engineering Associate IV Dominic Buenaventura and Management Analyst II Ivan Gerson packed everything from swimming gear, oxygen to a teddy bear. Street Lighting Engineering Associate II Tom Nguyen captured his best memories in a laptop with family photos and films, and decided to spend his time reading and traversing the Martian landscape with a good pair of hiking shoes.

Club Contest Winner was awarded to Tom Nguyen, and Bob Gallagher finished second. Along with Civil Engineering Associate III Chelsea Li, Tom will represent the club at the upcoming Area 43 Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contest.

The Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club



The Public Works Pioneer Toastmasters are, from left: Management Analyst II Ivan Gerson; Solid Resources Superintendent Richard Veiga; Management Analyst II Yukari Iwai; Architectural Associate II Ben Gaetos; Personnel Analyst II Yvonne Liu; Architectural Drafting Tech Ioana June; Civil Engineering Associate II Yasmin Hafeez; Building Mechanical Engineer Shawn Farzan; Civil Engineering Associate II Chelsea Li; Management Analyst II Flora Khaw; Management Analyst II Jennifer Lau; and Street Lighting Engineering Associate II Tom Nguyen.

meets each Wednesday at noon at 650 S. Spring St. in the 12th floor Giannini Room. Guests are always welcome. Joining the club is inexpensive, educational and fun.

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit organization that helps its members to improve their communication skills, lose their fears of public speaking and learn skills that will help them succeed in their personal and professional goals.

Toastmasters International's core values are integrity, dedication to excellence, service to the member, and respect for the individual. These are values worthy of a great organization, and Toastmasters believe they should incorporate them as anchor points in every decision they make. Toastmaster core values provide members with a means of not only guiding but also evalu-

ating their operations, their planning, and their vision for the future.

Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club (Club No. 616895) held its first meeting in January 2004, with only three members and has met every Wednesday since. Today the club has an active membership of 30 adults representing every Public Works Bureau. The members meet weekly to improve their presentation skills, to encourage each other to pursue public speaking opportunities, to polish leadership skills and to cultivate an appreciation for the English language.

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles thanks Yvonne Liu, Vice President of Public Relations, Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters, for providing information for this story.

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