

Public Speaking and Communications with **Amarillo Toastmasters Venture Crew 2211**

Contact Evan Salisbury TODAY at 806-356-9015!

Who We Are:

Amarillo Toastmasters Venture Crew 2211 is a part of the Boy Scouts Venturing program and is a fresh opportunity for members to buff their speaking and communication skills. Venturing is a co-ed program that gives teenagers the opportunity to plan and organize various fun and unique activities with the goal of improving ourselves and helping others improve themselves.

When you join Venture Crew 2112 you will find yourself helping to plan and hold challenging programs to improve your communications. As a crew member you will also participate in various service projects throughout the community working with other young people to provide public speaking instruction and improvement.. The Venturing program is a great way for teenagers to get involved in our community and it provides us with great skills and experiences to remember for the rest of our lives.

How We Do It: Through Youth Leadership, the Toastmasters International Way

Think of the good leaders you know.

They probably have one trait in common – the ability to communicate effectively.

We use the Youth Leadership program to help us grow to meet the challenges of adulthood and leadership successfully. Sponsored and conducted by Toastmasters International and Amarillo Toastmasters Club 211, Youth Leadership helps us build our communication and leadership skills so we may become good leaders in the community, in our families and friendships, and in our careers later on in life.

Purpose of the Program

Every young person has the potential to become a good communicator and leader, but this potential needs to be developed. The Youth Leadership program's unique design enables participants to develop this potential through practical experience.

The program is not in competition with school programs or courses, or other established youth projects. Instead, it's a supplement to these programs, providing emphasis on specialized speaking and leadership skills, and individual needs. Participants learn to:

- * Overcome nervousness when speaking before an audience.
- * Organize and present ideas logically and convincingly.
- * Listen carefully to others' ideas.
- * Offer advice to help others improve their speaking and leadership skills.
- * Participate in - and even lead - group discussion or meetings.

Participants increase our self-confidence as we learn. We also make new friends and have fun. The Toastmasters system is an enjoyable learning experience!

Who Participates

Venture Crew 2211 works best with about 15 to 20 people, with a maximum of 25. That way, each person receives individual attention and has the opportunity to get practical experience. The program is not an award to honor those who already have become leaders. It's designed for the much larger group who are still working on communication skills. Participants are selected for what they can become, not for what they already have done. Often teenagers want the course as a supplement to their high school education, or to prepare for college.

The Sponsors

Amarillo Toastmasters Club 211 serves as sponsor and provides the experienced leaders needed to help us with the program. These adults are patient and understanding; they remember their own struggles with the same issues we face and work well with us as a result.

The adult with overall responsibility for the program is the coordinator. He or she works closely with BSA and Toastmasters and attends each each of our meetings, helps conduct most of the training and counsels participants. The coordinator often has an assistant who conducts discussions and substitutes for the coordinator if needed.

How it Works

The program is presented in eight sessions after school or on weekends. Each session usually lasts one to two hours. Activities taking place in the sessions include the following:

- * Evaluation of present speaking ability
- * Discussion of chairmanship principles
- * Presentation of speeches
- * Impromptu talks
- * Group evaluation
- * Discussion of speech organization
- * Discussion and practice in listening
- * Discussion of gestures in speaking
- * Discussion of voice and vocabulary
- * Exercise in chairmanship

There is usually no cost to participants for tuition or materials. The materials used in the program are produced by Toastmasters International and are provided by the sponsoring Toastmasters club, which orders them from Toastmasters World Headquarters for a small fee.

Generally, meetings follow a format similar to that of a Toastmasters club meeting. There is an announced agenda and participants learn and practice parliamentary procedure during each meeting. Lecturing is minimal, but discussion is held during each session. Participants, working from a handbook, select officers who preside over the meetings. The remaining class members are assigned other duties on a rotating basis, so everyone is actively involved. Participants also deliver short impromptu and prepared speeches. In every meeting, participants learn to apply the principles of listening, thinking and speaking.

What You Do Now

We'd like to have you join us! Contact Evan Salisbury at 806-356-9015 for more information. Give us a call today!