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Local Gribble Gatekeeper Wins Toastmasters Division A Speech Contest

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA. IWR's Brooke Angel, member of the Gribble Gatekeepers Chapter, won the Toastmasters Division A evaluation contest on Saturday, April 5, 2014. Evaluation is a key Toastmasters function that promotes important skills for all club participants in order to think critically and improve their own communication techniques and strategies.

"Brooke gave a confidently presented evaluation, picking up several points that other participants missed," said Stuart Davis, IWR team member and club president.

Brooke will represent the 22 clubs of Division A at the District 29 Spring Conference on May 16th.

"I'm very thankful for the support I've received from my club and the district as a whole. I had never participated in a Toastmasters competition, or even an evaluation, before this, and to have the honor of representing my own club, and IWR as a whole, in such a positive way is truly a great blessing," said Brooke Angel about the experience.

Recent chapter activity included a speech-a-thon potluck with topics covering tennis, Nobel Peace Prize winner Jane Addams, judging people by appearance, and bullying. Most meetings include two speeches on diverse topics and one-to-two-minute impromptu table topics. Active members have gained considerable confidence, polished their communications skills and also have had a lot fun in a supportive, learning environment.

The Gribble Gatekeepers is an open Toastmasters Club and meets in the Casey Building at noon on the first and third Tuesday of every month. IWR managers strongly encourage employees to become active members of Toastmasters and to include participation as part of USACE Individual Development Plans (IDP). For more information, contact Membership Vice President Brooke Angel at (703) 428-6444, Brooke.A.Angel@usace.army.mil.

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