

ROTARY CLUB OF CROWN POINT

Guidelines for Speakers

When your turn comes up to select a speaker for a club meeting, here are some guidelines to consider:

- Choose a speaker with a topic of informational, educational, motivational or entertainment value that will be of general interest to all club members.
- **Be aware of controversial topics or volatile issues** that could arouse anger and division among members. Consider the Four-Way Test when considering speakers and topics.
 1. Is it the TRUTH?
 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?
- **Avoid repetition or sameness.** Look for a speaker we haven't heard before with a fresh topic.
- **Political/Religious topics.** Rotary International is a non-political and non-religious organization. As a matter of policy, Rotary Clubs do not take positions on public questions including political or international issues.
- **Avoid product or service promotion.** Advise company executives who are invited to speak to deal with issues that affect their industry and the community and how they cope with them. **They should not use the Rotary podium to promote their products or services.**
- **Political candidates.** It is acceptable to have current political office holders and candidates for office speak to our club when the format is simply a report on issues that face the community, or speaking on behalf of another entity. The speaker should not use the speaking invitation as an opportunity to garner support for the office that they are seeking.
- **Non-profit organizations.** Consider such speakers of organizations that impact our community that is not a sales pitch for funding. Never allow requests for funding unless the request has been formally approved in advance by the club board of directors.

Approved on November 15, 2011.