

## Introductory Speech for Speakers Roundtable

A 5-7 minutes speech that shares about who you are and shows what you can do.  
Guidance for preparing for this introduction:

- The most successful Introductory Speeches:
  - Take a specific chapter of your life or a particular experience and talk about what happened and why it affected you so or
  - Pick 3 significant hobbies, passions, key facts or life roles (mother, sister, church leader, Girl Scout leader, next door neighbor, jogger, teacher, learner, etc.) about you and give a nice clear picture of why those tell who you are.
  - Give a particular slice of your life.
  - Use an analogical approach that allows the members to see you through an interesting lens.
- Take the 5-7 minutes to capture the members attention and leave them wanting to hear more in the future.
  - Do not do too much, like a racing through a big long timeline or resume.
  - You don't have to tell your deepest thoughts, fears or losses, etc. There will likely be lots of time later when you can "unfold these stories." This is simply to get the members....and you.... started to get to know you.
  - Stay away from the traditional "biopic" speech, which does not tend to be engaging.
- Be creative, have fun, and explore being vulnerable.
  - Consider approaching it as the first in a series of speeches about yourself, which will set you up with a lot of creative directions to explore in the future.
  - A speech once used hats as props that revealed something of the speaker's roles or interests.
  - Surprise!! - members like to be surprised.
- Be clearly well prepared, which is consistent with the club's exception of professionalism.