

Toastmaster Charts Active Role to Advance while Helping Others

Adam Straseske has taken to heart Abraham Lincoln's message, "Whatever you are, be a good one."

Although he has been a member of Toastmasters on-and-off for five years, Adam has now set a goal to complete the 10 speeches in two advanced manuals. He completed his Competent Communicator manual in 2008.

The enthusiastic Toastmaster also wants to "help others however possible through active membership."



Although Adam defines his activity in Toastmasters as a bit lukewarm, in those five years he has served as Secretary and Treasurer of Arboretum Toastmasters.

Born in Watertown, Wis., Adam has been married to his wife, Tina, for 10 years, and the couple has two children, Jack Steven and Ryan, ages six and three.

Asked if he would like to see his children follow in his Toastmasters' footsteps one day, Adam replies, "Yes, I would like my children to have all the confidence and success in what they have the desire and commitment to grab."

The Chartered Market Technician (CMT), who received his bachelor's degree in Finance from the University of Louisiana, is employed by Texas Private Asset Management.

Becoming a Toastmaster has helped him feel a little bit more comfortable in his own skin because Adam, like most members, joined Toastmasters to become a better speaker. As far as linguistic abilities, Adam likes to joke, "I learned English at home, but I'm still working on it."

"And I speak enough Spanish and Portuguese to be confident after three drinks." Adam feels Toastmasters has helped him both in becoming a better speaker and allowing him to meet great people.

When the busy working man, husband and father finds time, he enjoys swimming. The avid fisherman also remembers (see photo) when he was on Eagle River in Wisconsin a couple of years ago where he caught the trophy walleye. However, his cousin flipped the fish like a pancake to get it into the boat and to Adam's dismay, it fell back into the water.

Adam has also been active in the Round Rock Optimist Club and Northwest Sertoma, but other more recent activities in his life have taken priority. Fortunately for Austintatious, this club is one of his priorities.