

Never raise a glass to yourself!

The etiquette and history of toasting

The other night Olivier and I were out for dinner at a very lovely restaurant to celebrate our anniversary—14 years goes by quickly!

Anyhow, as we were enjoying our appetizers, a group of 10 sat down at the table next to us. They were obviously celebrating some occasion too because there were gifts involved. The interesting thing was once the wait staff had served everyone their beverages, one of gentlemen made a toast to one of the ladies present. I think she may have been a soon-to-be-bridal. When everyone raised their glasses to drink to the toast, the soon-to-be-bridal raised her glass and drank to herself as well! I was horrified!

This actually happens all the time and I don't think people are aware that drinking to oneself is a terrible no-no. The polite thing to do is smile and say thank you, but resist the urge to raise your glass. (To bring the point home, a similar situation would be a business meeting where your boss extols to the group what a wonderful job you did on the recent project and instead of smiling and thanking the boss, you jump up and say 'why yes, I did do a fabulous job, didn't I!')

Proper adherence to this rule will also help ensure that guests of honour follow another cardinal rule—don't get drunk at a formal party in your honour!

To go a little further into the subject, there are a few theories behind the whole toasting process. First of all, where did the clinking of the glasses come from? Well, one school of thought is that this ceremony was purposefully intended to spill the drinks in people's glasses into the

Lori Gysel & Gerry Kentner



other's glass, for assurance that nobody was going to be poisoned (either that or everyone was going to be poisoned)!

The other school of thought originated in the Middle Ages, when all alcoholic beverages were thought to have actual "spirits" in them and when the drink was consumed, the spirit would inhabit the host's body causing them to do things they wouldn't normally do.

So, the clinking of the bells was considered to be a sound close to

that of church bells — a sure fire cure for driving evil spirits away!

Nowadays, though, it is considered polite to touch glasses with others or simply to raise your glass—no loud clinking or spilling of drinks is necessary or encouraged.

Next problem: what do you do if you have no beverage when the time comes to toast or you prefer not to drink alcohol? Simple raising an empty glass and then replacing the glass on the table is considered correct. Just smile while doing so, you do not have to pretend to drink from an empty glass. Or, you may toast with any beverage of your choice—it does not have to be wine or champagne. A glass of water or orange juice is just fine too!

Have fun and keep cooking!

(Lori and Gerry can be reached at whatscookin@independentfreepress.com)

Barbecued corn on the cob

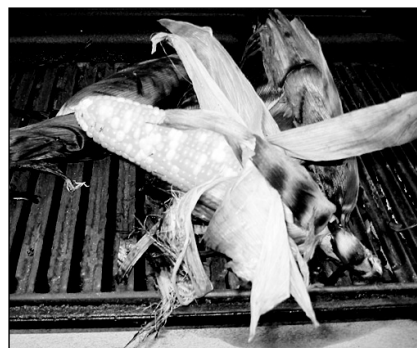
Method

Soak whole corn on the cob, in the husks in cold water for at least 30 minutes.

When ready, shake excess water from corn and place corn (still in husks) directly on to the barbecue grill (at medium heat). Close lid.

Turn two or three times during cooking process. Entire cooking time is about 10-15 minutes. The outside husk should be quite black and burnt looking when you are done.

Peel husks from corn right away, while still hot and serve. If some of the kernels have a bit of brown



colour to them, this just means that the sugar from the corn has caramelized and it will still taste delicious!

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Sunday, Sept. 10

Rally Sunday: You are invited to join us for our annual Rally Sunday at St. Andrew's United Church (89 Mountainview Rd. S.) at 10 a.m. Our worship service begins in the Sanctuary. Immediately following the service we will have a barbecue and games for the kids behind the church. Rally Sunday is a great time to register for Sunday School, Youth Choir and an opportunity to find out about the many other programs and groups happening in the fall at St. Andrew's.

Amazing Dog Race: Racers are needed to compete in the Amazing Dog Race at Cedarvale Park. Participants and their dogs are asked to perform simple tasks in order to complete the race. The race begins at 11 a.m. followed by a Pet Fair with fun dog contests and vendors. To receive your registration package, contact Cheryl at 519-833-2287 or e-mail volunteer@uppercredit.com. Proceeds to Upper Credit Humane Society shelter.

Power of One service: Join us at 10 a.m. for a special service focusing on The Power of One. Inspiring music, inspiring message— all in a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. Coffee and refreshments to follow service at St. John's United Church, 11 Guelph St, Georgetown. Info: church office, 905-877-2531.

Community Breakfast: at Nassagaweya Church, 3097 15 Sideroad, just east of Guelph Line. There is no charge for the breakfast, which is served continuously from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Games and activities for children. Please join us for

Community Calendar

breakfast. Info: 905-854-1055.

Monday, Sept. 11

Cribbage: Monday night cribbage league starts on Monday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Georgetown Legion. Everyone welcome. If interested in joining please call Ev Metler, 905-873-2306. You do not have to be a Legion member.

Halton Hills Toastmasters: Develop your speaking, presentation and leadership skills now at St. Alban's Church hall, Glen Williams, Mondays (except holidays), 7:30-9:30 p.m. Info: Debora Kirby, 519-853-9533 (evenings or weekends), hhtmmembership@hotmail.com or www.haltonhillstm.org.

Bridge anyone?: Georgetown Bridge Club offers games for players of all levels, beginner, intermediate and advanced. Info: Tom, 905-877-7486.

TOPS-Acton: meets Mondays at St. Joseph's Church, Church St. E. Weigh-in: 6-7 p.m. Meetings follow until 8 p.m. Info: Ena, 519-853-1526.

Recovery meeting: Searching for help to deal with your destructive habits? Attend Celebrate Recovery, at Georgetown Alliance Church, Mondays, 7 p.m. Meetings open to all. Info: Pastor Doug, 905-873-0249 or cr@agrowingfamily.org.

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Registration begins for Alpha Course

"Is there more to life than this?" That is just one of many questions that will be discussed during the Alpha Course at the "Check-it-out" complimentary supper hosted at the Georgetown Alliance Church, 290 Main St. S. on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. Call 905-873-0249 by Sept. 19 to reserve your free supper.

Churches & Temples	
<p>Georgetown Alliance Church Sunday Worship* at 10:00 am *Nursery & Jr. Worship for Children www.agrowingfamily.org 290 Main St. (S. of Maple) 905-873-0249</p>	<p>St. George's Anglican Church Summer Sunday Worship 8:00 am, 9:30 am (Nursery Care available at 9:30 am) Thursday Worship 10:00 am 60 Guelph Street, Georgetown 905-877-8044 www.stgeorgesgeorgetown.com</p>
<p>Maple Avenue Baptist Church 9:00 am Family Teaching Ministry 10:00 am Fellowship Time 10:30 Morning Worship Service AWANA Kid's Club - Wed. 6:25 pm - 8:00 pm Weekly events for all ages. "Where Friends become Family" 905-873-9211 177 Maple Ave., Georgetown email: mabc@mabc.ca</p>	<p>St. Alban's Anglican Church 8:00 a.m. Said Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist Nursery & Children's Worship 905-877-8323 537 Main St., Glen Williams Pastor: The Rev. Grahame Stap www.saintalban.ca</p>
<p>KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH a Time for Fellowship & Friendship www.knoxgeorgetown.ca</p>	
<p>REV. DR. JAMES COOPER 116 Main St. South Georgetown, ON (905) 877-7585</p> <p>Service Dial-In: (905) 702-1629</p>	
<p>SUNDAY SERVICES 11:00 AM (Nursery Services Provided)</p>	
<p>GEORGETOWN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH welcomes you! Lead Pastor: Rev. Gary vanLeeuwen Associate Pastor: Rev. Ted S. Bootsma Sunday Worship Services: 10:00 am & 6:00 pm 11611 Trafalgar Road (north of Maple Avenue) www.grcr.on.ca 905-877-4322</p>	
<p>NORVAL Presbyterian Church Service & Sunday School 11:15 a.m. "All are Welcome" 499 Guelph St., Norval, Ont. www.norvalpres.ca</p>	
<p>MOUNT ZION FULL GOSPEL MINISTRIES (Affiliated with World Christianship Ministries) A Life changing ministry "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." BALLINAFAD COMMUNITY CENTRE downstairs ALL WELCOME Sunday Worship 11a.m. PASTOR ANDREW G. PATON (COUNSELLING AVAILABLE) (519) 853-5657</p>	
<p>Helping our community live Life! Sunday 10 am The Gathering The Church at The Gellert 10241 8th Line 905-873-LIFE(5433) www.thegathering.ca</p>	
<p>Pastor: David Topley Youth Pastor: Kevin McKee</p>	
<p>GEORGETOWN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Sunday Worship 10:00am Nursery & Superchurch for Kids! 13619 HWY 7 West Tel. 905-873-9652 Website: www.georgetownchristianfellowship.com</p>	
<p>The Salvation Army Georgetown Community Church We're Casual, Family Friendly, Exciting & Relevant Everything starts @ 10:30 am (905) 877-1374 271 Mountainview Rd. S.</p>	
<p>Immanuel Lutheran Church The Church of the Lutheran Hour We are not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ.</p>	
<p>Sunday Services 9:00 am Bible Study & Children Singing 10:00 am Divine Service & Sunday School 100 Mountainview Rd. South, Georgetown Pastor Gerson Flor (905) 877-1172</p>	
<p>BAHA'I FAITH BAHA'IS BELIEVE that the principal challenge facing the peoples of the earth is to accept the fact of their own oneness and to assist in the process of unification. For more information call 1-800-433-3284 or write BAHAI, Box 91, Georgetown, L7G 4T1 www.ca.bahai.org</p>	