

## Mentoring: An Important Part of Club Membership

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**WHAT is mentoring?** Every successful club has one thing in common – successful, experienced members. By using this experience in a mentoring program, both the new members and the experienced members gain from their interaction. The new members will progress faster by benefiting from the experienced member's knowledge, and the experienced members will benefit from the teaching/mentoring experience.

**WHO can be a mentor?** A mentor is a more experienced member. This is usually someone who has successfully completed at least five speeches, which is half of the Chaucer basic manual, and who takes a personal interest in helping another member. Mentors serve as role models, coaches, and confidants by offering knowledge, insight, perspective, and wisdom that is useful to other members. A mentor can help a new member become familiar with our Club or can assist a more experienced member in learning special skills.

**WHY have mentors?** Mentors serve as club ambassadors who help retain new members by welcoming them and making their experience with the club the best it can possibly be. Mentors help the process of membership to be exciting without being overwhelming.

Those of us who have benefited from Chaucer membership want to see the club remain successful and thrive by continuing to recruit interesting, motivated members. More members will provide a diversity of talent, make our club more interesting, and ensure our financial security.

### **Mentors support new members in the following ways:**

1. Build a personal rapport with the new members. Discuss your own personal experiences as a Speaker, and relate some of the benefits you have experienced.
2. Discuss the new members' needs and expectations.
3. Discuss the effort and commitment needed to meet these goals. Emphasize the need to prepare diligently for each manual speech, to attend meetings regularly, and to participate fully in club programs and activities.
4. Monitor new member's performance and progress. This is the ongoing role of the mentor.

As a mentor you will find you are just as proud of the new members' accomplishments as you are of your own.

**WHEN to be a mentor or get a mentor? Now!** Be an "all you can be" Mentor or get a mentor now!

**HOW:** If you need a mentor or want to become a mentor contact William on [William.warren@deabadh.com](mailto:William.warren@deabadh.com)