February 2015

 “ONE, MAKES AN AUDIENCE”

We all hope that we have become better listeners, but we have to admit that some of us are “borderline” cases. Effective listening is more than avoiding the bad habit of interrupting

Someone before they are able to complete their comment. It’s being content to listen to some ones entire thought before responding.

In some ways, listening is symbolic of the way we live. We feel that we are in a race. One continuous statement..And then, the reply. No breaks whatsoever. Have you ever listened to some of the conversations you hear in restaurants? It seems that they are not listening to each other. Only waiting their turn to express their own thoughts, whether they directly relate to what was just said to them or not. Mark Twain has said, ”Life does not consist mainly of facts and happenings. It consists mainly of the continuous flow of thoughts between individuals.

Slowing down on our response time and becoming better listener’s helps us in decreasing that self-imposed stress that many of us live under today. While our viewpoint is definitely of value in a discussion, our effort to become the “audience” in that two-way conversation enables us to have a more meaningful relationship with others. For we all agree that we also are seeking the

“audience” to hear what we have to say.

Fraternally,

Bob