**Toast**

**Intent:** To publicly wish the newlyweds well as they begin their lives together.

I. **Considerations when developing a toast**
   A. Make arrangements so that everyone will have a drink at the right time
   B. Be sure to provide nonalcoholic drinks for those of us who ain’t drunks!
   C. Try to memorize it
   D. Know where you are in the toast lineup, the later you go, the higher the expectations of the audience.
   E. Humor, wordplay, rhymes and metaphors can all be used, but be tasteful
   F. Acknowledge the event, the couple, and offer your best wishes
   G. Similar to a one-point speech with 1-2 supporting examples
   H. Know the audience, what will they find funny, touching or offensive?
   I. Use your own words, personal, heartfelt thoughts are better than clever generic thoughts.
   J. Keep it under 2 minutes.
   K. Announce your relationship to one or both newlyweds (some folks may not know you).
   L. Try to focus on BOTH newlyweds…and their future more than their past
   M. Be complimentary, say something nice
   N. Look at couple during toast & then look across audience
   O. Sip, don’t chug from your glass.

II. **Things to Avoid when developing a toast**
   A. If toast is longer than 30 seconds, don’t have everyone holding glass up for entire toast, direct them to raise glass at end
   B. Don’t start toast till you have everyone’s attention
   C. Don’t disclose embarrassing info. about those being toasted
   D. Avoid inside jokes.

See “Funniest Best Man Speech Ever!” on Youtube

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vr4ZEMyKrWI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vr4ZEMyKrWI)