

Through the Camera Lens *Toastmasters Convention Review*



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EDITORIAL

Share What You Know

by Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM
Editor/Publisher

A few weeks ago, I met Judy—intrepid traveller, author, and former Toastmaster. After 12 years in Africa, she returned to Portland and Toastmasters to polish her presentation skills and speak about her experiences with the women of the Mapusha Weavers Guild.

Out of curiosity, I asked her how the skills she learned in Toastmasters had aided her in helping the women of the Guild. She looked at me quizzically, and shared “I don’t think it did!”

“Did you use your listening skills to listen below the surface? What about your communication skills?” I asked. “Did you use them when you influenced the officials who were blocking the Guild’s success? What about your leadership and persuasive skills, were they useful when you helped the women of Mapusha regain their confidence?”

A look of realization came over Judy’s face as she thought back over how Toastmasters had helped her in her work. How it helped her overcome the objections of the local authorities and helped her market the beautiful rugs produced by the Guild.

I’ve been in Toastmasters since 2008, and been a member of several clubs, some of which I helped charter. I’ve served the district in leadership positions from the club to district governor levels. I’ve learned valuable lessons in how to listen, communicate effectively, and lead a team. My conversation with Judy got me thinking. How have I been sharing what I’ve learned? Am I using my Toastmasters skills to help others be successful?

I’ve taught classes for WorkSource Oregon where I shared lessons in effective listening and communication. I created *Voices!* to highlight the work of members, where I use skills learned in Toastmasers to edit for clarity. Further, I co-host a monthly cable television program where we interview guests using skills learned in Table Topics and the advanced manual, *Speaking on Video*.

How are you sharing what you’ve learned in Toastmasters? Whether it’s helping a weaving guild get reestablished, communicating with people in your church, community, or family members. or simply talking to people in the grocery line. What are you doing to share your skills? Think of Toastmasters as a laboratory, a safe place to learn how to communicate and lead. What you learn is worth sharing with the wider world. Use your skills to make your world, and those who share it, a better place to live. Again I ask, “How are you sharing what you know?”

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TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

Through the Camera Lens

Toastmasters Convention Highlights

by Phyllis Harmon, DTM - Public Relations Manager



Washington, DC—Twenty-five hundred voices and the beat of *Fire on the Mountain* from the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, ricocheting off the walls, greeted attendees at the opening ceremonies Wednesday night, August 18, 2016, in the Marriott Marquis Ballroom. People clogging the aisles searching for fellow club members and friends from across the globe added to the rising tension and anticipation of what was soon to come.

The evening began when Mark Brown, 1994 International Speech Champion, announced the 142 countries, which make up the Toastmasters International global network, as District Directors from around the world bore

D7 District Director, carried the Ukraine flag in honor of Marylhurst club member, Olya Kovnatska.

We laughed over the antics of the Water Coolers, a comedy troupe from New York, who kept us entertained using songs and sketch comedy to illustrate the pitfalls of daily life and how to overcome fear. They ended their act with a parody of *We are The Champions*, by Queen.

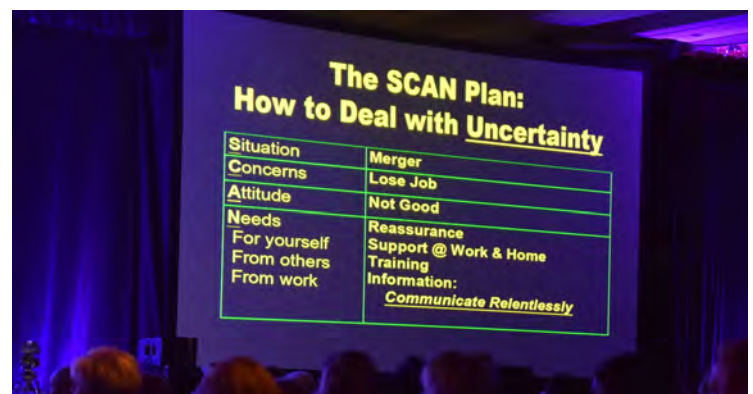


Leanna Lindquist carries the Ukraine flag while Phyllis Harmon snaps pictures from the side.

flags to the stage. People in native costumes dotted the stage as the flag bearers took their places before the audience. Leanna Lindquist,



Keynote Ed Tate, 2000 International Speech Champion, urged attendees to embrace change and uncertainty using leadership and influence



to achieve results.

Over the next four days, attendees were entertained, learned valuable lessons, and elected the International Board of Directors. Golden Gavel award winner Tony Buzan, inventor of mind mapping, reminded us of the infinite capabilities of the mind. Kelly Swanson, award winning storyteller, demonstrated the art of storytelling using personal stories and vulnerability.

The convention reminds me we are more the same then we are different. When you are a Toastmaster you have friends all around the world.—Leanna Lindquist, DTM

John Zimmer, International Geneva Toastmasters Club, taught us about improv and team work, and reminded us to tell our teams often “I’ve got your back!”

Between sessions, while I snapped photos of the Trio, Leanna, Donna, and Cathy, interviewed international director candidates.



Interview with soon-to-be elected International Director, Region 4, Monique Levesque-Pharoah, DTM. L to R: Monique Levesque-Pharoh, Leanna Lindquist, Donna Stark, and Cathy French

Five speakers, at the top of their game, vied for the coveted Accredited Speakers designation. Cathey Armillas gave an outstanding presentation *How to Rock a TED Talk*. Even though she was unsuccessful in her quest, it was a pleasure to see her in action. I anticipate we will see her before a panel of judges again next year. Cathey is a professional presenter with an indomitable spirit.



Cathey Armillas, DTM

The International Speech Contest semi-finals brought contestants together from all over the world. Jonathan Abuyan, New Horizons VP Education, representing District 32, was polished and at the top of his game. Robert Brewer, representing District 7, was one of the youngest contestants, wowing the audience with his speech *Change the Conversation*. Both Jonathan and Robert took their audiences on a rollercoaster ride of emotion. I spoke with both Jonathan and Robert after their presentations. Both were pleased with their performances, and will be back to try again.



Jonathan Abuyan, ATMB, CL, representing District 32



Robert Brewer, CC, representing District 7

The 2016 International Speech champion, Darren Tay Wen Jie kept the audience laughing while he delivered a very serious message about bullying in his speech, *Outsmart, Outlast*. His final comment to his coach, Ed Tate, 1998 International Champion, “*and that’s how it’s done by the younger generation*” had us once again rolling in the aisles.



Darren Tay Wen Jie

Toastmasters is where leaders are made... and where friendships are made.—Donna Stark, DTM

The International Business meeting was beset with software issues. Voting by electronic devices proved to be a challenge. Cell phone signals and distance between the receiving station and the delegate voting devices extended the business meeting by three hours. During software glitches, led by the Executive Board, members danced in the aisles to loud, heart-stopping music. In the end, the serious business of electing new international officers was accomplished. Both Proposal A and B were adopted without serious opposition.



L to R: Michael Notaro, PIP and Jim Kokocki. IPIP



L to R: Patrick Locke, Intl Director Region 11-Teresa Dukes, Intl Director Region 1-Margaret Page, IPIP Jim Kokochi



L to R: Convention Host-Paul White, Marylee Mims, Region 25 PDG, Lourdes Markley, M A C Toastmasters

The convention ended with new director installation and the President's dinner dance before calling it a night and journey's end.

The Toastmasters International convention is done for another year. It was a time filled with laughter, reconnections, and meeting new friends. From opening ceremonies to final wrap, the 2016 convention was one of the best ever.

The 2017 convention will be in Vancouver, British Columbia. Rumor has it that a charter bus trip is being considered.



Leanna Lindquist accepting Excellence in Education award from Jim Kokochi, IPIP on behalf of District 7



L to R: Leanna Lindquist, Gary Schmidt, Donna Stark, Cathy French

The convention is a place to meet the future leaders in the world and form bonds now. It's an experience everyone should have.—Cathy French, ACG, ALB

Focusing on Feedback. . .

Dear Editor—

Your team consistently puts out a wonderfully high-quality magazine every month. I really enjoy perusing your creation. Thank you very much – to everyone on your team and all the contributors.

James Wantz, DTM

Ed: The magazine is in its third year of publication. Each month the articles contain information and insights that help us become better leaders and communicators. It's my honor to speak for the team, and say thank you wholeheartedly.

Dear Editor—

I enjoy the many varied stories. I think the lists are good for recognizing members and clubs for their achievements. They are a quick read. I enjoy articles I can sink my teeth into.

David Johnson, DTM

Ed: The articles and stories are written by the members. We believe that recognizing new members introduces them to our community. Recognizing achievements honors those who have worked so hard to earn them. They also serve as incentives for those who are working hard on becoming the people they were meant to be. Thank you for your feedback!

Dear Editor —

Thank you for all that you do for *Voices!* and all of Toastmasters. I didn't see Competitive Speakers PDX in the list of clubs that got all 10 goals completed, however. I'm proud of my second club! It's the first time a club I was in got all ten goals. (Facebook post)

Chris Engelke, CC, CL

Ed: Hmmm - I apologize for the oversight. Yay for Competitive Speakers PDX - well done, and recognition well deserved!

Your feedback is very important! Please send us your ideas, what improvements you would like to see in the magazine, or comments on the articles using the Feedback Form link. We are always looking for ways to make the content more engaging, interesting, and full of information you can use. [Editor]





AS I SEE IT...

How Do You Put A Price Tag on the Benefits of Toastmasters?

by Leanna Lindquist, DTM—District Director



Over two thousand attendees, from all over the globe, were at the 85th Toastmasters International Convention in Washington, D.C. Some flew 26 hours to take part in the annual event.

A topic of discussion was the dues increase taking effect October 1, 2016. As I thought about this on the trip home, I took out pen and paper and made a list. Perhaps you will have more to add.

Toastmasters Benefits:

- A proven program in speaking and leading
- Conferences with world class speakers offered at break-even prices
- Contests
- Experienced mentors
- Feedback
- Friendship—and for some, marriage
- Learn how to write and deliver a speech
- Learn to think on your feet and respond intelligently
- Listening skills
- Monthly magazine from District 7—*Voices!*
- Monthly magazine from Toastmasters International
- Online Resources
- Opportunity to
 - Lead a meeting
 - Serve as a club or district officer
 - Speak before an audience
 - Submit articles and be published in *Voices!*
 - Visit other clubs
- Pathways—the new education program
- Self-confidence
- Training
- Transferrable skills

How do you determine if you are receiving the “bang for your buck?” If you earned education or leadership awards, you made progress.

Every time you attend club meetings you learn, either by doing or listening. The beauty of Toastmasters is, as you work through the manuals, you increase your knowledge of how to put together and deliver a good speech. Then you get to practice it, in front of a live audience. Feedback helps you fine tune your delivery.

Has your ability to write and deliver a speech helped you in your workplace? Do you feel more confident when asked to meet with clients or give a presentation? Has Table Topics helped you think on your feet instead of being tongue tied? Did you enjoy the thrill of competing in a speech contest—or did you excitedly cheer on one of your club members? Are you a mentor to a new member? Have you been touched by a mentor? Is your club like a family who supports and encourages one another? Have you made friends? If you had to run a meeting at work or in the community, could you do it?

If you answered yes to any of these questions you can credit Toastmasters.

I did some local online research to see what you might pay for a speaking course. The duration of the courses will be dictated by the dollars you have to spend. Once they are completed so is the feedback. Here is some of what I found:

- Breaking Bad Communication Habits - \$199
- Dale Carnegie, 3-hour, live, online workshop - \$299
- 6 hours of speech coaching - \$1000
- 75 minutes speech coaching - \$229

Let’s get back to the dues increase. We are going from \$36 every 6 months to \$45 every 6 months. The last dues increase was in 2011. What does this mean in every day dollars? A nickel a



day, 35 cents a week or \$1.50 a month more for all the benefits membership has to offer.

What does it mean in terms of new benefits for you? Toastmasters released their new mobile app that can be used during meetings. Pathways, our new education program, will go live in 2017.

Huge strides have been made, and will continue to be made, in our online experience. Toastmasters International continues to expand all around the world.

I wrote my first (of four) dues renewal checks this week. (Yes I still carry a checkbook and, yes, I belong to 4 clubs.) I will be happily renewing all of them, because I'm worth it. What about you?

As I see it, Toastmasters is one of the best values on the planet. Questions about the dues increase are addressed [here](#).

.....

Operation Website

Is your website feeling puny? Websites, like people, benefit from an annual checkup. A great way to begin is to search for the name of your club on the web. What is your club's online presence? Will potential members find your website?

The Examination

Make a visual assessment from head to toe. Are you starting with a tagline or eye catching opening statement? Draw the viewers in with some catchy phrases:

- Presidents Distinguished Club once again
- Join us for an open house on August 31st
- Guests are always welcome
- Changing lives for 15 years

Eye Test

Do you see photos of your members in action or are you asking yourself "who are those people?" New Horizons Toastmasters #2039 has several visitors at each meeting. They credit the fun photos on their website for attracting guests. They change them often. Posting photos that make people wish they had been there is a great way to attract visitors.

The heart of a website should provide a compelling reason for visiting your club. What do you have to offer? Is it immediately obvious? Influence people to want what you have to offer.

Post a members' success story. Let people know what makes your club special.

Do all the parts work?

Is it obvious when and where you meet? Have you provided details that will make it easy for guests to find you? Where do they park? Which door do they enter?

Now that you have given your club website a quick once over, did it receive a clean bill of health? Or, does your club need a shot in the arm?

A club website is Marketing 101. Today most people use the Internet to find a club. If you don't have a website then for all intent and purpose you don't exist. We want every club in District 7 to have a strong positive website presence. It is the first step to a healthy influx of visitors. A new or improved website may be the shot in the arm your club needs to increase your member numbers.

There are a several free club management websites available to your club. The most popular are FreeToastHost and Easy-Speak. Both provide a front page for marketing your club. Whatever product chosen, make sure that the page is properly branded, inviting, and easy to navigate. Get started today—people are looking for your club!

Help Wanted

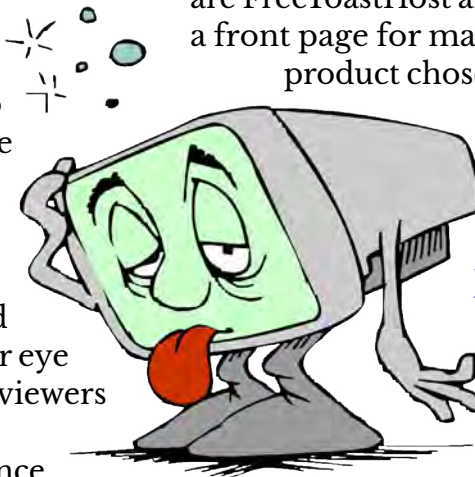
Not everyone has the expertise or confidence to set up a website. We are looking for members willing to help a club or two get their websites up and running. Some clubs have websites but the webmaster is no longer there and the site needs updating and members need training.

If you are

- Willing to help set up a new FreeToastHost website—[sign up](#)
- Asking for help with your website—[sign up](#)
- Willing to "visit" club websites and offer your first impressions—[sign up](#)

Our goal is to start the New Year, January 1, 2017 with websites for all our clubs looking as healthy as New Horizons!

Join me in Operation Website!





FROM THE DESK

August is Training Month

by Donna Stark, DTM—Program Quality Director

August is a busy month for Toastmasters! In addition to the International Convention, August is training month. Training isn't just for club officers. Your District Trio attended two days of training for their roles.

Do your club officers still need to attend training? Don't miss out on Distinguished Club Program goal #9. Check the District 7 calendar to see what's available and get your officers trained by August 31st. Kudos to the following clubs, who have as of this writing, had all seven officers attend training:

- Audacious Orators
- Babble-On Toastmasters
- Capital Toastmasters
- Civil Tongues
- Columbia Communicators
- Coos Bay Toastmasters
- Hopemasters
- Jefferson State Toastmasters
- La Pine Toastmasters
- Liberty Toastmasters
- McMinnville Toastmasters
- Mentors of Focus
- MIME Speaks
- Modoc Toastmasters

- Moser Community Toastmasters
- Portland Club
- Smooth Talkers
- Yawn Patrol

Speaking of August 31st, clubs completing a Club Success Plan by August 31st, and sending it to me at pqd@d7toastmasters.org by September 7, will be entered into a drawing for one of three \$100 Toastmasters International gift certificates. Chart your course for club success and receive a chance for \$100 worth of merchandise from Toastmasters International!



**Time is
Running Out
on Club Officer
Training. Don't
Get Left Behind!**





FROM THE DESK



Think Outside the Box

by Cathy French, ACGz, ALB—Club Growth Director

Every day you have the potential to contribute to another person's success. Take a few moments to think about some of the opportunities you may have missed in the last few weeks.

Who would you like to mentor? Look on Google, LinkedIn, Facebook and other social networks—invite them to your meetings. If they don't live nearby, invite them to another club in the District. Find someone in that club to greet them as they enter and mentor if they join.

Finding potential guests:

- Place a flyer on a coffee shop board
- Review your business cards that you have collected
- Who sells you products to use in your home or business?
- Who contacts you with offers to advertise your business?
- Who comes to your home to repair or enhance your home or yard?
- Who do you purchase services from outside of your home?
- Your church bulletin
- Friends and business associates—people they know!
- Health club bulletin boards
- Who belongs to your local PTA?
- Who lives next door or across the street?
- How about your hairdresser, dentist, doctor, chiropractor, orthodontist?
- Who is on your holiday greeting list?

- Is there a college nearby—students, faculty, administration?
- Who are your favorite sales people?
- Have you asked your spouse—or the people they know?
- Who is on your bowling team?
- Multi level marketers, travel agents, insurance agents, real estate brokers.

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX! THEN—bring them in, impress them, ask them to join. Then, create a meeting environment that will make them want to stay. If you do this, you will certainly finish up with a large, strong club.

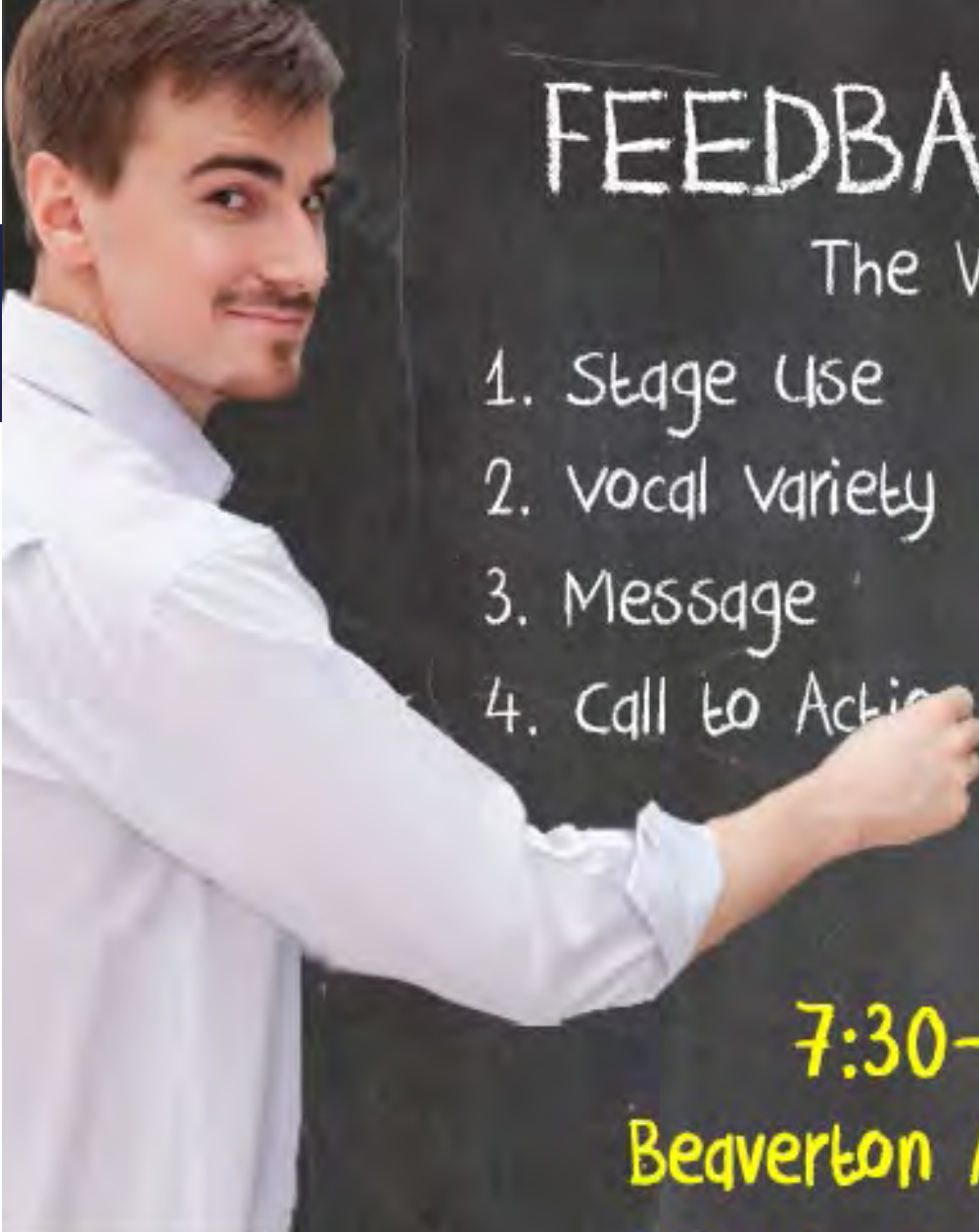
August Updates

- Smedley Award—August 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016—Grow your club by 5 new members for an incentive from Toastmasters International
- Bingo card-I hope you have started filling out your Bingo card! I look forward to seeing who is first to get a Bingo
- Future DTM's—Contact Allison Bennett to become part of the Coach program. This would fulfill one of the requirements needed to become a DTM
- The Membership Ambassador program is starting. We are in need of ambassadors on the Coast, Bend and Redmond areas, and Vancouver. Southern Oregon is stepping up. Yay to all the volunteers there.

Congratulations to Peer Masters

Our first newly chartered club of the 2016-2017 year. It looks we have a few more that will charter this coming month. What an exciting year this will be.





FEEDBACKERS

The Workshop Club

1. Stage Use
2. Vocal Variety
3. Message
4. Call to Action

EVALUATIONS
YOUR WAY

7:30-9:15pm

Beaverton Activities Center

12500 SW Allen Blvd

Beaverton, Oregon

Join us Second Wednesdays
Visitors Always Welcome

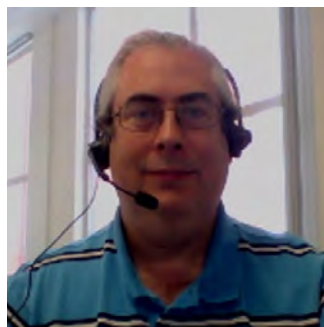
JOURNEYS

The Face of a Toastmaster —David Johnson

by Brinn Hemmingson, ACG, CL



Chances are, if you have attended District 7 conferences recently or any number of community/Toastmaster events in Portland, Oregon, you have seen David Johnson. Amongst us Toastmasters he is well known—with good reason.



He has held the following positions:

Columbia Center Toastmasters (newly renamed Moser Community Toastmasters)

- VP Education for 1 year
- VP Public Relations for 2 or 3 years
- Sergeant at Arms for 1 year
- President for 1 year
- Secretary for 1 year

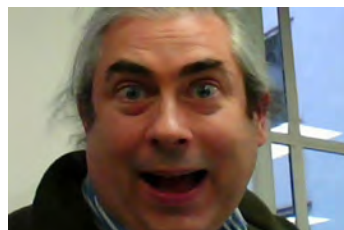
Fortunate 500

- VP Education for 1 year
- VP Membership current

District Offices

- Area Governor 52 2014 - 2015
- Division D Director 2015 - 2016
- Division D Director 2016 - 2017

David said, “My boss ran into a meeting room where I was moderating a call. He was gesticulating wildly to wrap up the conference call. That was my first hint that I needed to improve my leadership skills.”



David had transferred into the product management department at his job, hoping to redirect his career from technical support towards research and development. He had

doubts about the position, what was expected, and how to be successful. Some of the duties included

giving presentations and moderating a weekly call with people from a number of departments in various offices. The calls that were supposed to be 30-minute check-ins were lasting an hour and, according to David, weren't very productive.

David's boss recommended some training, and out of this crisis came a new opportunity. After some research and talking with co-workers, he decided to visit a Toastmasters club in January 2009. He enjoyed the speeches and even participated in Table Topics. What impressed him most was the level of feedback—and not just for the speakers! There was someone listening to the words, a Table Topics evaluator, and people who evaluated the evaluators!



David soon joined that club, and is still a member to this day. Initially known as Columbia Center Toastmasters; now it's called Moser Community Toastmasters.

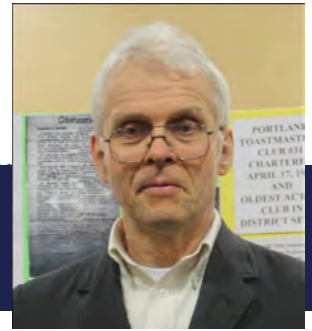
David applied some of the skills he learned from these meetings to the work meetings he moderated. He ensured people had an agenda with estimated times for each section. This also helped in planning and delivering training sessions to employees. David said, “I knew I was succeeding when a coworker complimented me on how I handled my conference calls. I realized I had become more confident and capable.”



BURIED TREASURE

Pendleton Toastmasters Club #154

by Harvey Schowe DTM-District 7 Historian



In the Fall of 1939, a dozen Pendleton, Oregon businessmen contacted Toastmasters International and Ernest C. Davis, District 2 Governor, about organizing a Toastmasters club. After this meeting Ernest Davis assisted in chartering the club. Toastmasters International issued a charter early in January 1940 with first elected club officers listed as follows:

- President: Lowell Stockman
- Vice-president: Homer Beale
- Secretary-Treasurer: Gordon Hertz
- Sergeant-at-Arms: Sprague Carter

On Thursday evening February 22, 1940 at Pendleton Hotel, Ernest C. Davis presented the charter to Lowell Stockman. The meeting had several speakers:

- Dr. G. L. L. McBee, "Young Americans"
- Mrs. Stockman, "The Widows Plea"
- Stan Day, "The Principal of Refrigeration"
- Pete Pinney, "The Future of the Housing Industry"
- Mrs. Ray Doherty, "Why I am Glad My Husband is a Toastmaster"
- Earl Hoops, "Nylon"
- Ray Doherty "My America"

Baker Toastmasters Club #55 members presented flowers along with congratulating telegrams from Toastmasters clubs in Minnesota and Hawaii. Maurice Alquist, Deputy District Governor from Walla Walla, Washington attended the meeting as a guest and a member of Walla Walla Toastmasters Club #81 that chartered May 1, 1937. Ernest Davis visited the club in March where he observed a well-organized program.

Pendleton Toastmasters Club was included in newly formed District 7 and Area 4 along with Baker Toastmasters club #55 and Walla Walla club #81. Maurice Alquist served as Lt. Governor during June 1941. After moving to Pendleton in 1941, Ernest Davis was elected president of Toastmasters International in August. Pendleton Club disbanded after July 1942 because war rationing restricted the printing of Toastmasters manuals.

Glenn Meek, past District 7 Historian, and his family moved to Pendleton in early 1945 for a delivery job at Railway Express. During deliveries, he met former club members Allen, a J. C. Penney manager, Fire Chief and Pendleton Hotel manager who wanted to reactivate the club. They gave him names of six other former members to contact. Soon he found 20 individuals interested in joining Toastmasters, enough for club reinstatement, in March 1945. Glen Meek was elected as club secretary-treasurer. He delivered an Ice breaker speech Tuesday evening March 23, 1945 at the Pendleton Hotel. He moved back to Portland, Oregon in September. The club merged into the new District 15 after western District 7 separated from eastern Oregon and southern Idaho. The club later combined into District 9. Pendleton Toastmasters is an active club with two members elected as District 9 Governor and Director.

Published on March 7, 2015 12:01AM

Club Celebrates 75th Anniversary in 2015



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY KATHARINE HANSEN

Pendleton Mayor Phillip Houk, fourth from right, celebrates with Jan Taylor, Jim Marquardt, Gary Hildebrand, Darlene Marquardt and Katharine Hansen as the Pendleton Toastmasters Club reaches its 75th anniversary

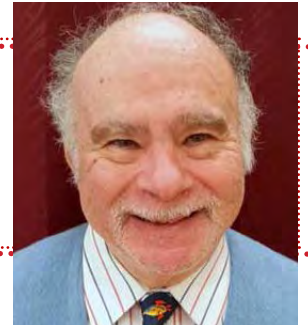
FEAR of failure
vanishes when
you equip
yourself with
the right
training!

Club officer training
ends August 31.
Visit the District 7
calendar to find a
training near you.



TABLE TOPICS OFFER COUNTLESS VARIETIES

by B-Lee Coyne, ATM-S, Guest Columnist



After spending nearly three full decades in four Toastmasters clubs, I've developed a repertoire of potential themes for the table topics segment.

Let us correlate them with holidays

- New Years Day—Toast to a person or pet
- Dr Martin Luther King's Birthday—Original motto to end racism
- Valentine's Day—Best opening line for dating
- Presidents Day—Favorite president and reason why
- St Patrick's Day—Give blarney-laden tale
- Easter week—What makes you get hopping
- April Fools Day—Most memorable prank
- Earth Day—Your nature relationship
- Mothers Day—Most nurturing experience
- Memorial Day—Eulogy you could deliver
- Flag Day—Explain US flag to Martian
- Father's Day—Daddy's biggest impact

- Independence day—Teen independence episode
- Labor Day—Influence of first job held
- Columbus Day—Your key self discovery
- Halloween—Mask of favorite hero
- Veterans Day—Story about a veteran you know
- Thanksgiving—Dealing with ingratitude
- Winter solstice—Alternative to snowman
- Christmas—Least desired present

Another route you can take involves the word of the day and how it applies (or does not apply) to you. A variation to consider is a job description using that particular word. Exercise that vivid imagination. Make others smile.

B-Lee Coyne is a social catalyst, featured writer/columnist, cable television producer/host, prior club president, and District 7 Public Relations Officer. He enjoys intellectual dialogue and poetry. He produces five cable television shows a month for Capital Community Cable Television.

Errata—

The July issue of *Voices!* misquoted Dick Parsons, DTM, Area 22 Director, on page 43. His comments to Area 22 clubs are as follows:

My plan as area director is to help each of the clubs to be the best they can be. Each club has its own personality and culture and history. Using available tools from Toastmasters International, getting input and buy in from the respective clubs and working together, we will grow with a goal of becoming a distinguished area.

[Editor—provided with apologies]

SUCCESSFUL CLUB

How to Become A Distinguished Club

by Frank Hupp, DTM



You would think becoming a Distinguished Club would be pretty easy. For this journey that I will take you through I would have to tell you it is not necessarily so.

I will give you some background information to set the stage. I live in Columbia City, Oregon, and I am a member of Columbian Toastmasters Club in St. Helens, Oregon.

I accepted the assignment as a club coach about 9 years ago for Astoria Toastmasters in Astoria, Oregon. I thought it would be easy as I had almost 10 years experience as a Toastmaster at that time. At the first meeting I attended, there were three Toastmasters present. I was one of them.

We meet on the first, third and fifth Mondays if there is a fifth Monday. That makes about 26 to 28 meetings per year.

We built the club to the distinguished level within two years. Then a member left because there were limited employment opportunities. Unemployment was about 20% in the Astoria area. We missed being Distinguished by one member. Then other members left to attempt to find employment. We would build up membership and then lose as many as we had gained. This happened to us twice.

About two years ago, I told Astoria Toastmasters that we needed to work really hard to become Distinguished as I felt that we had become a little complacent.

We decided that on those fifth Mondays we would have an open house. We had fliers printed and distributed to local businesses. I started going to Astoria in the mid afternoons and contacting

local businesses. I contacted realty companies, banks, county offices, Fred Meyer, Les Schwab, health care clinics, gas stations, and whomever else I could think of to contact.

Several of our members caught fire and started contacting their circle of influence. That worked really well as they live in the Astoria and southern Washington communities.

Multiple Area Directors (Governors) assisted whenever they could.

We made a corporate decision and joined the Astoria Chamber of Commerce.

It was truly a team effort. Each and every Astoria Toastmasters club member did their part. With any membership building effort, it takes

many hours of dedicated effort by each and every member.

There is not just one decision or effort that made the difference. It is all of the things that we, underscore we, did over the 9-year journey that helped us to become a President's Distinguished Club by meeting ten of ten goals.

Frank Hupp joined Toastmasters in 1997. He is a member of Astoria Toastmasters and Columbian Club. He is currently serving as President of Astoria Toastmasters and Sergeant at Arms for Columbian Toastmasers. He is serving as Area 81 Director in Division G (Northern Division).



Grace Period Comes to an End

Many members have been dependent on the “grace period.” It was that extra 45 days when your membership continued even though you hadn’t paid your dues. It really meant that you were in good standing with Toastmasters International. It allowed you to compete in contests held during that 45-day period. All of it goes away October 1st. Think of it this way. On the last day of September, your membership expires. For uninterrupted membership, your dues must be at World Headquarters on or before September 30th. When October 1st comes along, if your dues were not paid, you are no longer a Toastmaster and will not be eligible to participate in contests.

Avoid interruption in your membership by submitting your dues to your club treasurer early. Club treasurers should submit dues as soon as they receive them. Don’t wait to collect all of them.

To be a club in good standing dues for at least 8 members, 3 of which are renewing members, must be at World Headquarters by September 30th.



Got an opinion?
Voices! is looking
for feedback! Do
you like what
you are reading,
yearn to learn
something new,
or simply want
to be heard?
Now’s your
opportunity to
share what you
think! Simply
click on this [link](#)
and fill out a
Feedback Form.





Beyond “Good Job!”

Tips For Giving Meaningful Appreciation (The Three Aspects of Feedback - Part I)

by Eric Winger, DTM

Too often, we give meaningless compliments to fellow Toastmasters, co-workers, friends, and loved ones. It’s easier to say “Good job!” than stop to think about what the other person did well. Yet, over time, these seemingly innocuous phrases build up until our credibility is challenged.

Here are seven ways to make your feedback believable.

1. Be Specific—Shallow compliments are almost as useless as filler words. Saying “Good job” to an employee means far less than saying “You landed the Frazier account in record time.” Instead of giving a meaningless platitude, ask yourself what particular aspect of a person’s work or effort you liked. Then tell them.

2. Be Timely—A compliment delayed is a compliment not paid because the value of appreciation diminishes with time. If your annual performance review is in December, odds are you won’t be talking about what happened the previous January. Give your compliments as soon as possible.

3. Be Thoughtful of Form¹—Medium matters. The form in which you deliver your appreciation makes a difference. The guy who repaired your car may not appreciate a frilly thank you card but Grandma would love a handwritten letter of thanks for the pair of socks she knitted you last Christmas. Consider what form your appreciation takes.

4. Be Aware of Perceived Value—How much someone values your feedback depends on how much they care about their project, their level of effort, and their respect for you. Try not to brush off someone with an empty superlative when they really value your opinion.

5. Be Less Awesome—And speaking of superlatives. . .Repeated use of words like “awesome”, “amazing”, and “perfect” cheapen your feedback and are a clue to the thoughtfulness of your opinion.

6. Be Patient—It’s really tempting to say, “Good job, but. . .” followed by a long list of improvements. Tacking on coaching may lessen the value of your appreciation even if it is insightful. Be patient and wait until the other person asks for your suggestions.

7. Most Importantly. . .Be Sincere—Most people have a finely tuned “bulls*!t” detector. Insincere compliments are easily spotted and they can hurt your credibility and the other person. If you don’t mean it, don’t say it. Be honest. And be kind.

Appreciation is more than just saying, “Good job!” A thoughtful person gives appreciation at the right time in the right way. They deliver it in a form that is valued and consider their words carefully. Above all, they are honest.

Don’t just tell the people in your life you appreciate them. Let them know you mean it.

Eric Winger joined Toastmasters in 2009. He is a member of Feedbackers and Silicon Forest where he serves as VP Membership. He is a much sought after workshop speaker and speech coach. During the school year, Eric is a coach and mentor for the youth gavel club, Future Stars.

¹From the book, *Thanks for the Feedback* by Douglas Stone and Sheila Heen

Open Letter to Members of Area 91—

“I am honored to be chosen as the Area Director. The opportunity you have given me, to grow and learn, is both edifying and humbling. I will strive to meet all the expectations of the position.

The opportunity to connect and expand communication from within a correctional institution is exciting. There are many stereotypes and fallacies associated with the incarcerated. My hope is that through communication and education we can all learn and grow, thereby enriching our lives.

As a member of the Audacious Orators, we are all excited to meet you and observe you in action. We anticipate learning much and enhancing our Toastmaster’s experience as we expand yours.

Sincerely—Angela Kim, ACB, ALB



District 7 Fall Conference

Warner Pacific College
2219 SE 68th Ave,
Portland, OR 97215
8:00-6:00pm

\$55 - \$80

**Early Bird Rate
Ends 8/31/2016**



Patricia Fripp, Keynote

Register Online





NOT SO...

by Ron Edgemon, DTM
Club President, Capital Toastmasters

In the June issue of *Voices!* there was an article titled *Prison Toastmasters Clubs Teach Skills Useful for Job Search*. In the article, the author wrote about her experiences with Toastmasters clubs inside prisons in eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The author stated, "When I go into the maximum security prison they have no idea what teamwork is. They do everything alone. They wait for things to be done for them. Toastmasters offers regular practice to develop new ways of thinking, speaking and working."

As a Toastmasters member that is also a prisoner, I am grateful that there are people willing to visit Toastmasters clubs in prisons. I've been incarcerated for 19 plus years, 17 of which have been at the maximum security Oregon State Penitentiary, and 16 plus years with Capital Toastmasters. I can't speak for the author's experiences in Toastmasters clubs in eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island, but I can speak from my personal experience with prison Toastmasters clubs here in Oregon. I'd like to share my experiences with you as they differ some from the author's experiences.

One thing I realized years ago is that prison is comprised of all sorts of people with varying backgrounds and skills. We have people who, for whatever reasons, have never held a job in society, people that were successful professionals in corporate America, and all in between. As a result of the different varieties of people and the life experiences they had prior to their incarceration, prison is filled with people of different skills. With that in mind, I do not agree with the statement that prisoners "have no idea what teamwork is. They do everything alone. They wait for things to be done for them." To me, that lumps everyone in the same basket. For some people in prison the statement is true, just as it is for some in society. For others, it is not the case at all.

One of the things I often say is that Toastmasters is people helping people. While our club does receive support from Toastmasters in the community who visit, or whom are members,



it is our club members and executive body that run our club. Being incarcerated we don't have Internet access, so staff at the prison assist us with those things. As one of our outside members, Janice Hallmark, stated in her article for the July issue of our newsletter 'Capital News', "When Allan Edinger talked me into attending that first meeting, I didn't plan on anything more than that. My understanding was that I was there to 'help' with the meeting." She goes on to say, "I, who was supposed to teach you, have learned so much more than you will ever know."

We are very fortunate in that Janice's comment is similar to what other guests and community members often tell us. It goes back to people helping people, where we get feedback and ideas for improvement from guests and guests often saying that they like something we are doing and plan to implement what we do into their club. None of that would be possible if it weren't for skills people come to our club with as well as skills they learn from our club.

As I look at our membership, some are college educated, some are going to college, some are former military personnel, some have prior business experience, and others do not have such

backgrounds. Regardless of our backgrounds, all of us are eager to improve upon whatever knowledge we already have. Since everyone's skill set is different, some people need more one-on-one attention. Then there are those that



definitely are not sitting back and waiting for things to be done for them. This is reflective of Toastmasters being a self-paced learn-by-doing organization, regardless whether in prison or not. I've been honored and privileged to serve at the club level as well as to have been an Area 42 Governor and then Division C Governor. In all of those positions, I saw so many similarities in the membership of the clubs. The primary difference was where the members reside.

Our club was chartered in 1968 as Capitol Gavel Club. Then in 2004, we officially became a Toastmasters club known as Capital Toastmasters. When I think about that transition, we had a lot of learning to do when it came to Toastmasters methods. As a Gavel Club we were very active in the institution with debates, meetings, teaching cognitive classes, etc. As our club sponsor, Allan Edinger, was instrumental in sharing Toastmasters methods with our club. Then we hit the ground running. For the last 9 years, our club has earned President's Distinguished completing all 10 Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goals. For a few years we were even the first in the world to attain all 10. That is our goal again this year.

Yes, I just laid down a challenge to all Toastmasters clubs to see if they can beat us. Our theory is if we can motivate other clubs to get active, then that is great. Our members didn't attain all of those goals by sitting back and waiting. We got active and have worked as a team ever since in order to help one another's growth. As Janice Hallmark said about her first visit to our club five years ago, "I was impressed with the quality of the meeting, the hospitality of the group, and the dedication to Toastmasters standards."

There seems to be some differences in experience. The prior article's author's assessment of her experiences in the prisons she visits in eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island is her view and I'm glad she is able to help the people she comes in contact with that perhaps don't have teamwork skills. At the same time, I'm grateful that things are different in our club and the other Oregon Toastmasters prison clubs I've worked with and/or helped start. We are very grateful for all of the guests that visit, and for the guests that have decided to join our club. Together, we can learn from one another, no matter if we are incarcerated or not. We all have different skill sets that we come to Toastmasters with, as well as those we have learned from Toastmasters.

In Capital Toastmasters, we welcome guests anytime someone wishes to visit or join. If you are ever inclined to visit our club, or another prison club, I encourage you to go with the understanding that, yes, you can help the club with new ideas. Also know that you very well may leave with some new ideas for your personal growth or for your club to try and adopt. If you do decide to visit our club, or any prison club, I'd also encourage you to not have preconceived ideas about what to expect and to certainly not stereotype anyone in any situation, whether it be prisoners or people of any sort, as all being one way. Instead, please remember each person is different. Together we all can help each other in our journeys to becoming better communicators, leaders, and people over all.

[Ron Edgemon is President of Capital Toastmasters. This article is in response to 2013 sidebar article appearing in the June 2016 issue of Voices!—Editor]



Online Clubs: Toastmasters' Tribal Tapestry

by Carole McCullough, ACG, ALB

Let's take a journey into the new world of online Toastmaster clubs. We began with a study group four years ago, and the emergence of a new tribe

called Netizens.

About two years ago this tribe became two tribes, and the Firebirds Collective emerged. In March 2016, both clubs chartered and a new community of onliners began. Our experiences in club and meeting management grew exponentially as each explored the use of web conferencing platforms to hold global meetings in real time. In 2015,



I took on the role of VP Education for Firebirds and Ian Murray became the President.

Firebird champions practiced the art of public speaking on the international stage and in front of web cameras. They polished their skills in scheduling, facilitating and recording their meetings from GoToMeeting, and shared their learning experiences with Toastmaster tribes across the world through social media.

A rich tapestry of multi-cultural connectivity began to grow. New friendships, spanning time zones, emerged. Weekly meetings, skillfully managed by the VPE team using easy-Speak, were soon filled with speeches and role takers.

The Firebirds Experience

We run effective online meetings, in two different time zones, alternating each week. These are preceded by setup sessions enabling visitors, guests and members to check their audio and video. The Logistics Manager, a new online meeting role, manages this process and builds new facilitation skills for themselves. The Front Runner checks for messages from those who are stranded and need help in accessing the room.

Testimonials

The challenging thing about long term online communication is building trust, it is harder to do remotely than in person.

Silvana Wasitova, Netizens

The Toastmaster online club leader gains real practice in managing conflict of cultures, ideas, time and personalities by opening communication lines and building trust and respect within a global virtual space. It is these club leaders who will empower a new generation of skilled communicators and leaders - weaving themselves effectively into our global world today.

Lorraine Taylor, Firebirds Collective

As an inaugural Toastmaster visitor, what a delight to have participated in the recent online meeting! Efficient, entertaining, engaging with fellow TM's all over the world - fantastic!

Marina Bertolino, recent visitor to Toastmasters Without Borders.

Supported by experienced toastmasters, comprehensive resources and user friendly technology - I have gone to Toastmaster Heaven! The most challenging lesson - getting used to GoToMeeting and Easy Speak - sharing those concerns and discoveries with leaders prepare me to assist others.

Moses Cherrington, Toastmasters Without Borders

Speakers request speeches using easy-Speak; and are scheduled according to date preferences and available spaces in agendas. Each speaker switches on their web cams and joins the Toastmaster of the Day and Timer on screen for the viewing enjoyment of their audience. Timing

devices are varied and entertaining as the Timers become more creative and efficient. The Listener remains on screen to provide an audience for the speakers and the Chat Monitor watches for questions in text chat.

Evaluators download copies of the evaluation guides from repositories in the cloud; sending completed forms to the speaker via email. Evaluators give their verbal feedback to the speakers, on screen, and are in turn evaluated by the General Evaluator later in the agenda.

Table Topics Masters select impromptu speakers from the attendee list and the Grammarian and Ah Counter take on new challenges as they perform their traditional roles innovatively on screen. The Video Monitor provides feedback on their screen presence, commenting on appearance, lighting and background.

The first time experience of an online Toastmasters meeting is exciting and empowering.

New prospective online clubs are now emerging in multiple time zones across the world. They are forming communities in Facebook groups, forging club infrastructure in easy-speak and building new leadership opportunities. They are taking flight—like a magic carpet moving beyond borders across the digital landscape—overcoming the barriers of time, distance and isolation.

Prospective Online Clubs

- Toastmasters Without Borders gathers members from GMT plus time zones—its central core emanating from Australia and New Zealand.
- Great White North Online reaches out to members in the GMT minus time zone—its central core emanates from Northern USA and Canada.
- Witty Storytellers harvest their storytellers in the GMT time zone—its central core emanating from United Kingdom and Europe. VP Education and resident storyteller, Julie Kertesz, reminds us of the benefits of online clubs for those who are isolated or incapacitated as well as those who are global nomads.
- Fuji Discovery, a club with its central core in Japan, is in preparation stage. Its founder, Akira Sasaki, is hopeful of new opportunities afforded by online clubs.

As we weave our tapestry of tribal Toastmasters, we embrace our cultural diversity and take time to think globally, communicate collaboratively, and act collectively. We urge you, the digital Toastmasters of the world to connect, collaborate, and share your stories of global experiences.

Online club meeting schedule summary available in the [Online Toastmasters Facebook Group](#).

Join us soon – together we can make Toastmaster history!

Carole is a Toastmaster with 14 years of experience who supports many clubs leaders through ementoring. She offers advice on the training of online leaders in her blog. She is a charter member of the Firebirds Collective, a pre-charter member of the Toastmasters

Online Leaders

The online Toastmasters is full of wonderful surprises - special synergies that reach well beyond the meetings themselves. Together we engage in creative problem-solving ... being online is a real treasure for me.

Susan Ellsworth, Great White North Online

As an e-learning specialist, an online language coach, a budding blogger and entrepreneur, I need to polish my online presence and video identity. Online TM clubs provides me with new opportunities to move forward.

Svetlana Rakhimova, Witty Storytellers

Online clubs provide the space for Toastmasters to participate from their own location and from any mobile device. They can form new friendships online in an up close and personal experience.

Julie Kertesz, Witty Storytellers

I firmly believe Online Clubs will open a new horizon to Toastmasters who live in remote areas and beyond the Districts.

Akira Sasaki, Fuji Discovery

Online Club membership suits those who are isolated; those who are housebound or incapacitated; and provides a new pathway for global nomads and innovative Toastmaster leaders.

Carole McCulloch, Firebirds Collective

Without Borders and mentor for other prospective online clubs.

Carole is a Help Desk volunteer for easy-Speak users and her webinars are promoted in the easy-Speak Toastmasters community in Facebook. Carole is the designer and facilitator for easy-Speak Made Easy at her Moodle learning environment. Visit her blog at <https://toastedtraining.wordpress.com/>.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Crafting Your Message

by Phyllis Harmon, DTM—District 7 Public Relations Manager

In the July issue of *Voices!*, you learned that focusing your message to a target audience was more effective than sending out a message to “everyone.” I shared that you would get better results by knowing who your target audience was, and then crafting your message to speak to their interests.

With the research on your target audience you did last month (you did do it, didn’t you?) you now know who they are, how they receive current information (newsletters, websites, social media, etc.), and what events they attend. Have you got your research handy? If not, go fetch it—I’ll wait. . .

Got it? Good!

Let’s assume that your identified target audience are people in an active retirement community, between the ages of 68-75, who get together weekly over coffee and pastries. They publish a monthly newsletter, hold community events, and host a weekly bingo game.

You want to interest this group in attending an open house to learn about your Toastmasters club which meets on the premises Thursday evenings.

Hmmmm. . .

There are a couple of points you should consider before crafting your open house

promotion:

1. Your target audience is probably not going to respond to messages about career advancement, and
2. They will more likely respond to messages that talk about social interaction, fun, or leisure time activities.

Yikes—guess what! The typical Toastmasters promotional materials available are not going to resonate with your target audience. Does that mean you should give up. . .throw your hands in the air and walk away? Of course not! It does mean you need to be a bit more creative. You can do that!

Here’s how:

Contact the business office of the retirement community, and let them know your club plans to host an evening of entertainment for the residents. (Don’t call it an open house or demonstration meeting. The phrases “open house” and “demonstration meeting” can sound an awful lot like a sales pitch.)

Keeping your target audience in mind, design your entertainment evening around food, storytelling, and perhaps a presentation about the best way to engage an audience or tell a story.

Pick your speakers carefully. Choose members who demographically match your target audience. Remember that if the audience



can't identify with the speakers, they won't be inspired to join your club. Keep the evening light, socially interactive, and fun. Leave lots of time for networking and one-to-one face time.

Okay. The evening is on the community's schedule, you've got your committees working on finding the right speakers, food is being organized, and everything appears to be under control.

But wait—haven't you forgotten something? How will your target audience know about your event? Word of mouth? Maybe. But wouldn't a notice promoting your event be more effective? (I know, I've finally gotten around to the subject of this month's article.)

While a national press release may not be appropriate for your local event, a write up in the local newspaper or community's newsletter would certainly be worthwhile. Consider creating a flyer for the community's bulletin board and posting it on social media. Don't forget about creating an event on Craig's List, Meetup, and Facebook, to name a few. Two of my favorite free sites for posting upcoming, community events are Americantowns.com and Oregonlive.com. Both provide bulletin boards for promoting events. The point is to broadcast your event in as many media outlets as possible.

But what do you write? What would appeal to your target audience? What's your hook? What would keep them reading and inspire them to attend your event?

Easy. Go back to your research on your target audience. Craft your notice and postings to appeal to their interests. For example, I am retired from paid employment. I love getting together with friends and sharing a good laugh or two. If there is free food, count me in!

Here is a short sample notice—

You Don't Say!

Join us (day, and date of event), (start and end times of event) at (event location), (address of event), for an evening of light refreshments and rollicking good fun as seasoned storytellers share tales from the library of life.

Hosted by (your toastmasters club)

RSVP to (contact info).

Price of admission:

A Great Sense of Humor

You could write a human interest article about the speakers. A longer article might mention the storytellers names and a small byte of information about their topics. But be cautious! Your article should not be overly long or too detailed. It is after all just a taste of what's to come.

Next month, we will explore how to decide if what's happening in your club is "news worthy."

Phyllis joined Toastmasters in 2008. She is the 2016-17 D7 Public Relations Manager, editor/publisher of Voices!, a member of several clubs, officer in four, and a leadership mentor and coach. She is currently completing the paperwork for her 3rd DTM.

"The art of effective listening is essential to clear communication, and clear communication is necessary to management success"

*James Cash Penney
Founder of J.C. Penney stores*



FUTURE STARS

Creating a More Accepting Future

by Jasiah Hasan, Club President

I still remember the first time I witnessed Future Stars work its magic on me. We were just a month shy from summer break. My history class was in the middle of a discussion so naturally I shrank to the back of the room and stayed quiet. Being a shy, introverted person meant I preferred to passively listen.

At one point, the discussion shifted to current events and religion. I remember how one boy insisted that Islam was “toxic” and “unhealthy” for the modern world. He said that Islam oppressed women by forcing women to cover themselves in scarves and submit to their male counterparts. As a Muslim girl, I felt my stomach clench at his words. The room was uncomfortably quiet and tense as the boy continued to spew hate. At that moment I knew I had to speak up, but how? I was too shy, too soft-spoken, and too weak.

“You’re wrong.” The words were out of my mouth before I could think. I remember how all eyes swiveled towards me. So I stood, knees shaking. “Muslim women aren’t oppressed. The hijab is a woman’s choice. And it helps her to be judged by not her physical beauty, but by her intelligence and kindness.”

The tension faded. My knees finally stopped shaking. That was all the encouragement I needed to continue expressing my thoughts. I held my ground just as I had learned in Table Topics, until I saw people nodding their agreement. With the power of a few simple words, I had changed my classmates’ worldview and gained their respect. I was able to lead them to a better understanding of Islam.

I often think back to stories like this one when I count my blessings. Because in a world divided by discrimination, Future Stars blesses me with the skills to survive. It teaches me to never stay silent when challenged by ignorance. It teaches me that my voice has the power to break walls when I strive for a just cause. When we can articulate emotions from deep within our hearts, people listen. People change. They understand the need for action and they follow us towards justice. Future Stars is a diverse group of young

people who are poised to create great change. With every word we utter and with every soul we inspire, we lead the world into a safer and more accepting future.

Jasiah Hasan is an eleventh grader at Sunset High School. She has been with Future Stars Gavel Club for four years, and is now its current youth President. This club has taught her leadership, delegation, and time management skills. When she isn’t writing and practicing speeches, she enjoys drinking herbal teas, hiking, and spending time with friends and family. Her dream is to become a young adult author.



Future Stars Gavel Club, is a youth communication and leadership club administered by Toastmasters International, helping the young people of today become the great leaders of tomorrow! The club is open to all middle school and high school aged kids. It gives them the opportunity to become better listeners, thinkers, speakers and leaders.

The club meets weekly during the school year every Saturday from 10:30am-12:00pm at 4115 SW 160th Avenue, Beaverton, Oregon 97007 in the first room in the portal. To learn more about Future Stars or to visit the club, please contact us at futurestarstoastmasters@gmail.com or contact Coach Eric at 503.516.6271. Visitors are encouraged to visit the club and see for themselves why Future Stars should be part of their educational journey.

The League of Extraordinary Toastmasters

Looking for Toastmasters who are:

- Going Out of Their Way
- Giving a Little More
- Doing More than Required
- Going Above and Beyond

BE EXTRAORDINARY pins will be give as recognition to those members nominated and reviewed for being extraordinary.



Anyone may nominate a recipient

- 1) Catch someone in the act of being extraordinary
- 2) Complete the Form

**This is a year-long program with
500 pins to be distributed.**



STRIVE2THRIVE

Effective Evaluations: A Key to a Thriving Club!

by Allison Bennett, DTM
Club Coach Coordinator

We all come to Toastmasters for different reasons, to accomplish various goals. What are you looking to get out of your Toastmasters experience?

For me, the opportunity to speak in front of small audiences drew me into Toastmasters the first time. But what keeps me coming back is the evaluation process and the valuable practice I get each week to hone my feedback skills.

One way to pique the interest of guests and keep current members coming back is providing friendly, actionable, and effective evaluations at each meeting. How are the evaluations in your club? Does your club have members who struggle with feedback or don't feel confident in their skills?

Would you like your club moving from Striving to Thriving in this area? Perhaps you can try an experiment that Keizer Communicators Club did this past spring!

An easy way to gain experience crafting and giving feedback lies right in your Competent Communication (CC) manual. Simply make several copies of the evaluation forms found at the end of each project in the CC manual. Each week, for a couple of weeks, choose a different form to fill out for each speaker. This will help train your eyes, ears and mind to look for specific items to evaluate. After just a

couple weeks, you will be surprised to find how much easier it is to give valuable feedback. The Keizer Communicators club tried this and found themselves gaining not only new members, but also achieved the goals necessary to achieve the Distinguished Club Program award!!



If your club is in need of a coach, or if you want to be a coach, click [here](#). To learn more about the Strive2Thrive program, click [here](#).



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Last Name	First Name
Peer Masters	Allen	Jeremy
Tower Toastmasters	Altman	Casey
Peer Masters	Anderson	Kristen
AAA Towsters	Arriola	Chelsi
Gravitate Toastmasters	Ashworth	Will
Flying Toasters Club	Atalig	Annabelle
MultCo Toasties	Baker	Marina
Yawn Patrol Club	Bear	Max
Gateway Toastmasters	Berka	Jacek
AAA Towsters	Berry	Nicholas
Portland Club	Binns	Japelle
Tower Toastmasters	Bisenius	Jenner
Silicon Forest Club	Borders	Debbe
PMI Portland Toastmasters	Bowman	Tyler
Electric Toasters Club	Bremer	Joshua
Peer Masters	Brindle	Deanna
Gravitate Toastmasters	Bye	Elizabeth
Symantec Toastmasters	Cabral	Daniel
MultCo Toasties	Carroll	Ashley
Essayons Club	Casper	Teresa
Noon Talkers	Cavola	Ryan
Sage Beaverton Toastmasters	Chin	Cailin
Gravitate Toastmasters	Chin	Kyle
Bootstrappers Club	Chiong	Sharlene
Gravitate Toastmasters	Coker	Nicholas
Lebanon Toastmasters	Corley	James
Passport To Leadership	Czarkowski	Dorota
Sporty Speakers	Day	Alyson
Clark County Toastmasters Club	De Graff	Patrice
Southern Oregon Speechmasters	Devries	Laura
Gorge Windbags	Dinnerstein	Marc
Club Northwest Toastmasters	Draves	Stephany
Cedar Hills Club	Dumbrow	Aaron
Peer Masters	Eddleman	Daniel
Peer Masters	Edwards	James
Peer Masters	Eustice	Lorraine
Vancouver Toastmasters Club	Farnham	Sarah
Gravitate Toastmasters	Ferdinand	Brian
Gravitate Toastmasters	Ferron	Renee
Peer Masters	Fevec	Jerald
Beachtown Toastmasters	Fontanilla	Julia
Noon Talkers	Ford	Ian
Gravitate Toastmasters	Forrest	Ian
Rose City Toasters Club	Foster	Douglas
Oregon Toastmasters Club	Franklin	Broderick
Smooth Talkers Club	Frick	David

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Last Name	First Name
Noontime Nomads Club	Fuimanono	Jeremiah
Gravitate Toastmasters	Gaines	Wyatt
Stevenson Club	Gallagher	Michael
WE Toasted Toastmasters	Gallardo	Michelle
MultCo Toasties	Galloway	Joshua
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Gamble	Jason
Southern Oregon Speechmasters	Garvin	Kevin
Southern Oregon Speechmasters	Garvin	Tina
Gravitate Toastmasters	Gedde	Geoff
Spirit Trackers	Geils	Marian
Portland Club	Gilbert	Aubre
PMI Portland Toastmasters	Grant	Brian
Peer Masters	Graves	Drucilla
Electric Toasters Club	Griffis	Cathy
Warner Mountain Club	Gwinn	Tiffany
Smooth Talkers Club	Haikkila	Daniel
Toastmasters of the Universe	Hansel	Kyle
Silicon Forest Club	Henderson	Carrie
Creekside Toastmasters	Hood	Michael
Tower Toastmasters	Hougham	Christie
Essayons Club	Huskey	Lori
Gravitate Toastmasters	Huynh	Sunny
Gorge Windbags	Ihmoda	Charlene
Gravitate Toastmasters	Jacobsen	Lynn Elyse
Peer Masters	James	Heather
Cedar Hills Club	Jenkins	Justin
Cedar Hills Club	Job	Theodore
Storymasters Toastmasters	Job	Theodore
Gravitate Toastmasters	Johnson	Flynt
Electric Toasters Club	Jorgensen	Kate
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Kaasa	Nicholas
West Beaverton Club	Katenbacher	Jason
Gateway Toastmasters	Kent-Pettit	Miles
Eco Voices Toastmasters	Kinden	Traci
Clark County Toastmasters Club	Kirilin	Aleksandr
Speakeasy Toastmasters	Kiyama	Rodolfo
Walker Talkers Toastmasters Club	Klink	Joe
Gravitate Toastmasters	Kolberg	Emily
Gravitate Toastmasters	Lance	Jason
Sherwood Town Criers Club	Leitzinger	Barbara
PMI Portland Toastmasters	Leiva	Diane
Peer Masters	Lillico	Lisa
Peer Masters	Lynch	Scott
Vancouver Toastmasters Club	Macisaac	Teresa
Essayons Club	Madrid	Ernesto
Passport To Leadership	Marcoccia	Erin

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Last Name	First Name
Battle Ground Toastmasters	Martin	Dan
WE Toasted Toastmasters	Martin	Michelle
Bridge Toastmasters Club	Martinez-Gilbertson	Kathryn
Portland Club	May	Stephanie
Mentors Of Focus Club	McDonald	Mary
Cascade Toastmasters Club	McDonald, D.C.	Michael
Essayons Club	McGivrey	Tygh
Pearl District Toastmasters Club	McKenzie	Theophan
Peer Masters	McLeod	Breanna
Clark County Toastmasters Club	Meuchel	Carley
Silicon Forest Club	Miller	Jessica
Sherwood Town Criers Club	Moe	Marianne
Peer Masters	Monks	Kassandra
Peer Masters	Montes	Jan
Peer Masters	Moreland	Kelsey
Marylhurst Toastmasters	Muller	Robin
Speakeasy Toastmasters	Murthy	Navya
Sporty Speakers	Nolen	Kitty
The Society of Oratory Aerialists	Nugent	Melissa
Washington Street Club	O'Brien	Pam
Keizer Communicators	O'Hara	Aaron
Passport To Leadership	Olson	Matthew
Toast of Corvallis Toastmasters Club	Olson	Poppy
Gravitate Toastmasters	Pacanins	Chris
Liberty Talkers	Park	Jae
Sandy Club #8848	Payne	Cody
PMI Portland Toastmasters	Perrott	Steven
The University Club	Petersen	Benjamin
Gravitate Toastmasters	Prewitt	Rachel
Oregon Toastmasters Club	Pugsley	Jodi
Speakers By Design	Ramstad	Will
Peer Masters	Rankin	Sherry
Electric Toasters Club	Reetz	Chris
Peer Masters	Rice	Debra
Spirit Trackers	Ritzenthaler	Christian
Milwaukie Talkies	Rogers	Ethan
Essayons Club	Roth	Lindsey
Peer Masters	Rotter	Dustin
Peer Masters	Roucher	Willis
Milwaukie Talkies	Roush	Whitney
Spirit Trackers	Salmon	Nathan
Gravitate Toastmasters	Scheele	Rob
Yawn Patrol Club	Schor	Lisa
Sherwood Town Criers Club	Schulz	Ryan
AAA Towsters	Scott	Benjamen
Portland Club	Sheraze	Sadiq

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Last Name	First Name
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Shugrue	Michael
Wallmasters International Club	Simmons	Lindsey
La Pine Chamber Toastmasters	Smith	Jamie
Peer Masters	Smith	Tina
Flying Toasters Club	Solis	Letty
Professionally Speaking	Stearman	James
Vancouver Toastmasters Club	Stork	Elizabeth
Titan Toastmasters Club	Swanson	Ron
Gravitate Toastmasters	Tidwell	Colten
Eco Voices Toastmasters	Timmerman	Lisa
Roseburg Club	Todd	Kemberly
Tabor Toastmasters Club	Trainor	Anne
Gravitate Toastmasters	Vernon	Joe
Columbia Communicators	Villa	Dixie
Storymasters Toastmasters	Villarreal	Juanita
Wonderful Oregon Wordmasters (WOW)	Vlcek	Charles
Tualatin Valley Toastmasters Club	Wallick	Stephanie
Smooth Talkers Club	Ware	Shawn
Banfield Barkers	Watts	Nichole
Toastmasters For Speaking Professionals	Westbrook	David
New Horizons Toastmasters Club	Whitmore	Douglas
Peer Masters	Winkler	Colin
Gravitate Toastmasters	Woodward	Clay
New Beginnings Toastmasters	Zavialov	Ilia
Noon Talkers	Zoesch	Michael



TRIPLE CROWN AWARD PINS

MEMBER	AWARDS	
Arnold, Cate Ann	6	ACS, ALB, ALS, DTM, ACG, LDREXC
Bennett, Allison	4	ALS, DTM, ACG, LDREXC
Brewer, Daniel S	3	CC, CL, ALB
Shehorn, David A.	3	ACB, CL, ALB
Tully, Kathleen	5	LDREXC, CC, CL, ALS, DTM
Zakrzewski, Chapin O.	4	LDREXC, ALS, ACG, DTM

Triple Crowns are awarded to members completing three different awards in a single year.

Happy Anniversary to August Clubs

The following clubs are celebrating their charter anniversary this month. Congratulations to all!

A special shout out to Warner Mountain and WRIP City who passed the quarter-century mark!

Charter	Years	Club Name
8/8/2014	2	Clackamas County
8/14/2014	2	Clack-Orators
8/1/1993	23	Silicon Forest
8/1/1983	33	Warner Mountain
8/1/1980	36	WRIP City
7/30/2014	2	Sporty Speakers



HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

AWARD	DATE	MEMBER	CLUB NAME
LDREXC	7/28/2016	Arnold, Cate Ann	Storymasters Toastmasters
ACG	7/27/2016	Arnold, Cate Ann	Storymasters Toastmasters
ALB	7/13/2016	Arnold, Cate Ann	Silicon Forest Club
ACS	7/13/2016	Arnold, Cate Ann	Silicon Forest Club
CL	7/1/2016	Bender Phelps, Susan A.	Toastmasters For Speaking Professionals
DTM	7/29/2016	Bennett, Allison	Sporty Speakers
ALS	7/29/2016	Bennett, Allison	Keizer Communicators
LDREXC	7/29/2016	Bennett, Allison	Toastmasters For Speaking Professionals
ACG	7/27/2016	Bennett, Allison	Toastmasters For Speaking Professionals
CC	7/8/2016	Brewer, Daniel S	Mentors Of Focus Club
CL	7/6/2016	Brewer, Daniel S	Silicon Forest Club
CC	7/15/2016	Broughton, Garrett	Sporty Speakers
CC	7/11/2016	Bruni, Alisa N.	A-Dec Toastmasters
CC	7/7/2016	Burgess, Neil	Rogue Communicators Club
ALB	7/1/2016	Cohen, Linda	Toastmasters For Speaking Professionals
CC	7/27/2016	COLEMAN, Anne D	Professionally Speaking
CC	7/10/2016	Dale, Jill	Liberty Toastmasters
CC	7/19/2016	Dreves, Kristin M.	West Beaverton Club
CC	7/11/2016	Duarte, Nathaniel	Rogue Valley Networking Toastmasters
ACB	7/13/2016	Duby, Kendra Morgan	Leader's Edge Club
ACB	7/18/2016	Freedman, David E.	Babble-On Toastmasters Club
LDREXC	7/22/2016	French, Cathy	Siuslaw Tale Spinners Club
LDREXC	7/29/2016	Harmon, Phyllis A.	New Horizons Toastmasters Club
CL	7/7/2016	Hawkins, Greg	PMI Portland Toastmasters
CL	7/21/2016	Heitz, Nena	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
ALS	7/6/2016	Heitz, Nena	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
DTM	7/8/2016	Henderson, Carrie	Blue Ox Club
ALS	7/8/2016	Henderson, Carrie	Blue Ox Club
CL	7/28/2016	Hernandez, Carlos	Smooth Talkers Club
ACG	7/8/2016	Hills, Dennis Bernard	Columbian Club
CC	7/6/2016	Holtman, David L.	Club Northwest Toastmasters
ALB	7/1/2016	Houghton, Daniel O.	Southern Oregon Speechmasters
CC	7/21/2016	Hunsaker, Joshua Morgan	MIME Speaks
ACB	7/11/2016	Isbell, Sarah Audrey	Rogue Valley Networking Toastmasters
ALS	7/20/2016	Isom, Jeff	The Standard Speakeasy Toastmasters
LDREXC	7/19/2016	Isom, Jeff	The Standard Speakeasy Toastmasters
CC	7/10/2016	Jaramillo, Mayra	University Toastmasters Club
CC	7/11/2016	Johnson, Annika M.	Motormouths Club
ACB	7/6/2016	Kenna, Renee S.	Southern Oregon Speechmasters
ALB	7/15/2016	Kersteter, Hans	Keizer Communicators
ALB	7/10/2016	Kleffner, Paul J.	Babble-On Toastmasters Club
CL	7/10/2016	Kleffner, Paul J.	Babble-On Toastmasters Club
ACB	7/28/2016	Lawrence, Kristopher	Smooth Talkers Club

HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

AWARD	DATE	MEMBER	CLUB NAME
CC	7/24/2016	Lebaron, Verlan M	Timber Talkers
CL	7/17/2016	Malshe, Rohit	Sporty Speakers
CL	7/15/2016	Martin, Rick	Sporty Speakers
ALB	7/28/2016	Moss, Kevin A.	Clackamas County Toastmasters
CL	7/15/2016	Patterson, Jeanne Frances	Sporty Speakers
CL	7/26/2016	Poudayel, Yuri	Electric Toasters Club
CL	7/11/2016	RAMAKRISHNAN, VASINI	Lunch Bunch Toastmasters Club
ACB	7/4/2016	Ramsay, Lawrence	Smooth Talkers Club
CC	7/5/2016	Rawlings, Taylor Jellum	MIME Speaks
CL	7/8/2016	Robison, Patrick C	Downtown Lunchbunch
CC	7/7/2016	Ronning-Hall, Karen	Silicon Forest Club
CC	7/10/2016	Savides, Eli	University Toastmasters Club
CC	7/18/2016	Schowe, Harvey L.	Blue Ox Club
ALB	7/28/2016	Shehorn, David A.	Clark County Toastmasters Club
CL	7/28/2016	Shehorn, David A.	Clark County Toastmasters Club
ACB	7/4/2016	Shehorn, David A.	Clark County Toastmasters Club
ALB	7/7/2016	Smith, Kenneth L.	Flying Toasters Club
CC	7/6/2016	Svehaug, Alan R.	New Beginnings Toastmasters
CC	7/21/2016	Tjan, Vanessa	MIME Speaks
ALS	7/12/2016	Tully, Kathleen	WE Toasted Toastmasters
LDREXC	7/12/2016	Tully, Kathleen	WE Toasted Toastmasters
ACB	7/20/2016	Tyson, Amy	Audacious Orators
ACB	7/24/2016	Van Der Horst, Els	Lunch Bunch Toastmasters Club
ACB	7/14/2016	Van Enk, Jian	Lunch Bunch Toastmasters Club
ALB	7/12/2016	Wagar, Carol	Gorge Windbags
CC	7/14/2016	Weber, Richard	Banfield Barkers
ACB	7/5/2016	Wetmore, David A.	Vancouver Toastmasters Club
CC	7/1/2016	Whiting, Howard	New Beginnings Toastmasters
CC	7/6/2016	Winger, Eric A.	Silicon Forest Club
CC	7/8/2016	Young, Amber N	Toastmasters of the Universe
DTM	7/22/2016	Zakrzewski, Chapin O.	Swan Island Toastmasters
ACG	7/22/2016	Zakrzewski, Chapin O.	Swan Island Toastmasters
ALS	7/22/2016	Zakrzewski, Chapin O.	Swan Island Toastmasters
LDREXC	7/21/2016	Zakrzewski, Chapin O.	Swan Island Toastmasters
ALB	7/12/2016	Zeyen-Hall, Janet Lynn	Flying Toasters Club
CL	7/11/2016	Zeyen-Hall, Janet Lynn	Flying Toasters Club

August - September 2016

AUGUST

29

Area 41 Humorous Speech & Table Topics Contest @ TBD

31

Last day to complete Club Success Plan Incentive

Last Day for Club Officer Training to receive DCP credit.

SEPTEMBER

5

Tabling at Labor Day Picnic Oaks Park @ Oaks Park
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

16

Club Contest Deadline - Humorous Speech and Table Topics

17

First day to hold Area Contest - Humorous and Table Topics

Area 43 - Humorous Speech & Table Topics Contest @ TBA

20

Area 53/54 Fall 2016 Speech Contests hosted by Rose City Toasters @
Columbia River Correctional Facility - 5:30 PM - 8:45 PM

22

Area 42 - Humorous Speech & Table Topics Contest @ Time and Location
TBA

Area 51 / 52 Fall 2016 Speech Contests at Bridgeside @ Bridgeside
Restaurant - 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Area 61, 62, 63 Humorous and Table Topics Speech Contest @ Marylhurst - Villa Maria,
Hemlock Rm - 6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

Tell Me A Story

Mission Drives Success

by David Shehorn, ACB, ALB



An essential part of Toastmasters recognition program is to reward and honor members. The recognition shows that we value member's unique and special contributions through contests and awards. These do help further the accomplishment and competitive spirit to advance and excel. We all appreciate that "pat on the back".



Although we all, as Toastmasters, appreciate the certificates, pins, medals, ribbons, plaques and trophies that Toastmasters provides and has available, I think most of us have an inner drive for that sense of accomplishment. We are competing with ourselves, where we have been, where we are now and where we are going. We are on a mission ... a mission of accomplishment.

How does the Toastmasters' Mission relate to our individual mission? The education resources of the Communication Track and Leadership Track have a built-in plan. We can review the plan and try to tailor it to our goals. But we have to find a way to enact the plan within our abilities, our attained accomplishments and our stretch goals. How do we do that? The education resources all depend on that invisible third leg of the Mission. Without that extra item, it is like a two legged stool, imbalanced and prone to fall over. We provide the third leg – by Participation. But there is no formula for success. Participation requires planning, preparation and practice.

We can then mold our participation by showcasing our personality, purpose and potential. We

can lend stability to our plan by using experience to increase our knowledge and develop our skills, just like the support rungs on the 3-legged stool that provide stability and support.

Sometimes clubs lose new members, because the club does not provide the opportunity for participation, and that negatively impacts the club's growth potential. Clubs can nurture new members through the mentoring program, encouraging participation through individual success and failure.

Yes, failure. A new member does not always understand that failure is a part of improvement on the path to success. Feedback through the evaluation process is a key element. But it has to be positive along with the negative. It is our job in the evaluation process to acknowledge the positive aspects of a member's speech or presentation, along with a few steps for improvement on the negative aspects. But the suggestions for improvement need to be within the reach of the participant. The techniques for evaluation are clear in their focus, but sometimes new members are not prepared for that type of feedback. Here is a graphic that helps to represent a model of how we can apply the Toastmasters Mission to enable each member's success.

How to get better at what you do:

- Start before you are ready for it
- Start before you are good at it

That is how you get "Good and Ready" for it.
Preparation + Practice + Participation = Stage-time
Stage-time + Evaluation = Good&Ready

David Shehorn joined Toastmasters in 2012. He is a member of Clark County Toastmasters where he is serving as Club President. In addition to his work in Toastmasters, David is a volunteer in several community-based organizations. He is a storyteller and writer.

Are You Connected?



Keep current on District events