

# 2017



**THE FUEL  
IN YOUR  
TOASTMASTERS  
TANK - Page 7**



# EDITORIAL

## Get Unstuck & Get Going

by Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM  
Editor/Publisher

Okay, six months are kaput, gone forever, and we've still got six to go to complete this Toastmasters year. How are those Toastmasters goals you made last July working out for you? Did you just say, "*What goals? We don't need no stinkin' goals!*" Well fine, be that way.

But here's the deal about goals—they are what they seem to be—a method for measuring whether you're stuck or not. Stuck in what you want out of life, stuck in routine, stuck in relationships that are less than satisfying, stuck in . . . well you get the point.

Goals give you a reference for how you're doing and where you're going. In fact, I'd wager you've set goals that you don't consider goals. Do you get yourself to work, play, school, whatever on time? You do? Ha, chances are at some point you set a goal to not be late—now you don't even have to think about it, you just do it (most of the time)!

Well Toastmasters goals are also measures of how you're doing. Are you stuck? Don't feel like you are improving? Here's an original idea—why don't you commit to completing those manuals you've slowly been working through for the past several months? Why not set a goal? Wow, did you just experience how simple that was? I just said it, and now it's one of my goals. You can do it too—you know you want to.

Besides, if you're moving forward so is your club. When you submit your completed manuals to Toastmasters International, not only do you benefit, but so does your club. And you do want to help your club complete their goals, don't you? Of course you do.

You've had six months to get to this point, now make the next six count. Set a goal to finish your goals. Yes, I know that sounds redundant but it makes my point. Get up, get moving, and most importantly, get unstuck. You know you want to!

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**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL

# Phyllis Harmon, DTM

## *Leadership Lessons*

It all began with the threat, *Clean up your act, or you're gone!* That threat catapulted Phyllis Harmon into a life of servant leadership. In *Leadership Lessons*, she shares her story. The lessons she's learned along the way will set you on your path to becoming the leader you are destined to be.

Phyllis Harmon is the editor/publisher of *Voices!*, the District 7 Toastmasters magazine; co-host of cable television's program, *Culturama*; Past District 7 Director; 2016-2017 District 7 Public Relations Manager; Distinguished Toastmaster; and, the 2016 Toastmaster of the Year recipient.



## When

February 6, 2017  
6:30-8:00pm

## Where

Beaverton Standard TV &  
Appliance  
3600 SW Hall Blvd, Beaverton

## Join Us!

RSVP Appreciated  
[rashellesimmons@gmail.com](mailto:rashellesimmons@gmail.com)

## OPEN HOUSE

Overcome your fear of speaking before an audience, and train your butterflies to fly in formation.

Toastmasters provides a safe environment where you can practice your next presentation and get quality feedback on how to take your speech to the next level.





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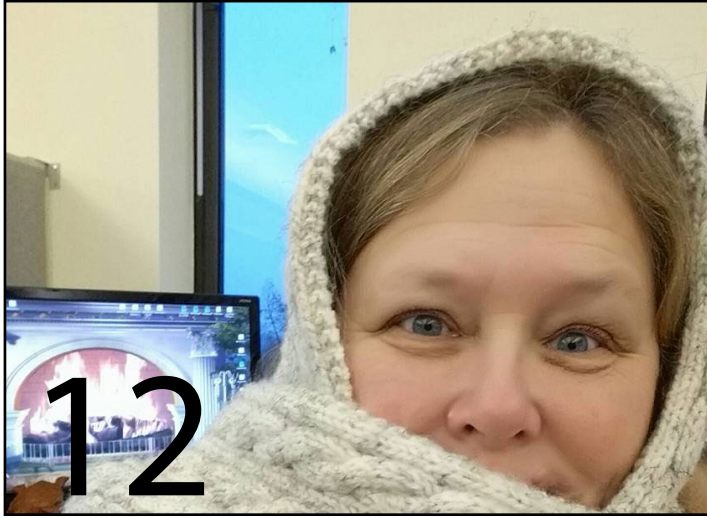
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# N MAXWELL T



*Kim Blanquie and John Maxwell*



# The Fuel in Your Toastmasters Tank

by Kim Blanquie



When I was twelve years old, I was given the huge honor of manning the guestbook at my aunt Amber's wedding. Even to this day, it plays in my mind as one of the most amazing events I've ever attended—perhaps due to my age and perhaps due to the lovely high heels I was allowed to wear that day! When I close my eyes, I still remember the beautiful bridesmaids in their royal purple velvet and the pristine white velvet of my aunt's fitted gown. Even with all that beauty, though, there was another person there who made that day unforgettable for me.

I nudged my grandma, "Who IS that guy?" "The Toastmaster," Grandma said. With that, I was smitten.

I think he may have been a friend of my uncle's, and he obviously had put a lot of preparation into his job that day. Donned in a tuxedo, I remember him as nothing short of AMAZING! Funny and on-point, he kept the flow of the party moving. He ultimately made everyone feel good with his funny stories and his sweet well-wishes. We all toasted the couple in love—and our Toastmaster that day was nothing short of fabulous!

So many years later, when my dear friend Ginger invited me to visit her Toastmasters club, I was all in. After all, who WOULDN'T want to be a glamorous Toastmaster or at least hang out with a bevy of them?

Fun is one of my core values. As a professional life and business coach, I've urged my clients to always consider fun in their business and life choices. So I signed up to be my official Toastmaster mentor. Thanks, Ginger!

A million articles have been written about goals and most of them talk about using the SMART goal acronym (Specific, Measurable,

Attainable, Realistic, and Time sensitive).

There is a reason for us to remember the Toastmaster at Auntie Amber's wedding, though. He was there for a PURPOSE! It was his honor to prepare and show up and contribute to the biggest day of their young lives.

*How do you want to show up? What is your need from Toastmasters?*

Every day the decisions we make and the actions we take are a direct result of how we think, feel, and the habits we indulge in. Most of the time we don't give a second thought to the values behind our decisions. After all, we need to focus on our immediate need—work, food and shelter. However, it is a huge advantage to know and understand what motivates us. This is where courage and knowing what we need come into the picture.

Our needs are not desires or wants. They are psychological "needs" that we constantly work to satisfy at our most unconscious level of awareness. They influence our deepest motivation and ultimately determine how we prioritize our decisions and actions throughout our lives. In fact, every single day we strive to meet these "needs" with varied success.

When met, we feel happy and fulfilled. When not met, we are unfulfilled and dissatisfied. However, because all this happens on such an unconscious level of awareness, we don't even realize why we are unhappy. Life seems okay on the surface, however something is just not right. When nothing makes you happy, get real and look to your driving force. You may have chosen goals without considering your "why."

So what might your deeper needs be and how can Toastmasters help you fill them?

*Our needs are not desires or wants. They are psychological "needs" that we constantly work to satisfy at our most unconscious level of awareness.*



Some of them are:

### Certainty

The quest to experience comfort and gain confidence in your life will grow as you set goals and shatter them. The certainty you gain will also help with stress in other areas of life.

### Variety

Do you need to create variety in your life to relieve boredom, predictability and stagnation? Every meeting and event you engage in will give you a unique set of objectives and stretch you in a new way.

### Significance

What is your identity? Are you a person who wants to shine in the world? Are you a person who seeks to help others shine? Toastmasters is a place for service. It is where you can grow in deep significance.

### Connection

Do you long for more connection? I've come to see that the opportunities in Toastmasters go far beyond developing the speaker inside of us. Toastmasters is ultimately about the relationships.

### Growth

The need to learn, experience and grow mentally, emotionally and spiritually will happen as you prepare for your meetings and engage with other like-minded people.

### Contribution

The need to contribute to something greater than yourself. When you engage in the roles of your meetings and support others, you bring something to other people's lives that they don't get anywhere else.

Once you know your deeper NEEDS, it will give you the courage and the energy to go out and set SMART goals. More importantly, get them met. You can do that with Toastmasters.

So before you create your goals for the year ahead, take some time to think about your deeper needs and let them become the fuel in your Toastmaster tank! After all, you never know when a twelve year old in high heels is watching YOU be your most fabulous self!

*Kim Blanquie joined Daylighters Toastmasters in 2013. She is a Mortgage Banker, John Maxwell Coach and Trainer, and founder of Summit Leadership Coaching, Inc., which works with leaders and businesses across the country to increase purpose and production in the workplace. On January 27th, Kim will have the honor of being the "Toastmaster" at The Masquerade Ball in Sherwood, Oregon. Tickets can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/2iZOL3q> and proceeds will go to benefit a non-profit, Hope for Widows and Orphans.*



## YOU ARE INVITED TO A BOOK SIGNING & PRESENTATION

Friday, January 27, 2017 - 6-8pm

Joan Lubar, member of Toastmasters for Speaking Professionals, is launching her newly released book, *Rock & Roll at Any Age*, with a book signing and presentation on Friday, January 27, 2017 at Cascade Sotheby's International Realty, 310 North State Street, Suite 102, Lake Oswego, Oregon

*Rock & Roll at Any Age*, a Rebellious Look at Life, Health and Spiritual Wisdom from the Sassy Sage. Sharing personal stories with easy ideas and solutions to move through life feeling as great as possible, Joan answers the fears and myths that make us sure we will be in pain, hunched over, sick, tired and overweight, the older we get. Joan lives the philosophy of "Getting older is inevitable. Aging is Optional."

Join Joan, enjoy a fun presentation as well as hear a reading from her book while enjoying appetizers, wine and champagne to celebrate her book launch.

# Website Wizardry Webinar

January 24, 2017

7:00-8:00pm

*Does your website attract potential members or drive them away?  
Is your website tarnishing your image  
or blurring your message?*

Find answers to these questions plus a lot more! Register thru the District 7 [Event Calendar](#) for call-in information





# AS I SEE IT...

## The State of District 7

by Leanna Lindquist, DTM—District Director

We recently passed the half way point in the Toastmaster year. The countdown to President's Distinguished District has begun. June 30th is our target date. Where do we need to be on June 30th? 187 Clubs—7201 membership payments—87 Distinguished clubs. A Distinguished District is the direct result of its members; their commitment to personal growth and their desire to have an excellent club.

Many of you have been working hard on your personal growth. It's evident when we look at the numbers of educational and leadership awards that have been earned. To date:

CL - 77	ALB - 24	ALS - 14
CC - 162	ACB - 42	ACS - 22
ACG - 14	LDREXE - 12	DTM - 12

These are impressive numbers. Will you add your name to the list? Be sure to [Make A Pledge](#) and stand up to be counted. Let's help each other to be accountable.

Let's take a look at our clubs: 47 clubs have earned 1 goal and 16 clubs 0 goals. Perhaps these clubs haven't had a chance to submit awards. Maybe they need a little help from the rest of us. If you are in one of these clubs, ask the questions, "Why isn't our club Distinguished? What can we do to turn that around?"

Why do we care about belonging to a Distinguished Club? It gets back to our mission: The *mission* of a Toastmasters Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual

member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

Personal growth is measured by the goals we complete. Accredited Speaker Sheryl Rausch, DTM says, "When you work the program, the program works."

Where are we in the Distinguished Club Program? 28 clubs have earned 5 or more goals. All of these clubs that grow their base by 5 or maintain 20 members are guaranteed to be Distinguished or better. Having earned 9 goals and with 27 members, Capital Toastmasters is on track to be the first club to meet all 10 goals. Last year 15 clubs earned the bragging rights. Will your club be one of them this year?

What can your club do to end the year Distinguished?

- Review your Club Success Plan—create one if you haven't already done it
- Garner pledges from your members to earn awards
- Ask for a Club Coach if you have 12 or less members
- Talk to your Area Director
- Work the Program
- Attend TLI
- Sign up for Winter Webinars

*I think self-awareness is probably the most important thing towards being a champion.—Billie Jean King*



# Mid-Year District Leader Changes

## Cathy French, DTM Steps Down as Club Growth Director

by Leanna Lindquist, District Director

Sometimes life throws you a curve ball. Such is the case for our Club Growth Director Cathy French, DTM. She brought her energy, enthusiasm and experience to the Trio. She introduced us to BINGO, peppered the District with transit ads and helped start new clubs. Her presence in the District is well known.

Unfortunately for us, Cathy's health care provider has recommended she take time off to attend to her health and well being. She leaves a hole in the fabric of the Trio. Donna and I will miss working with her and planning for the success of our members.

We wish Cathy all the best and hope she will soon be back to her old self.



L-R - Cathy French, Leanna Lindquist, and Donna Stark at August 2016 Toastmasters International Convention, Washington, DC

## John Rodke, DTM Appointed to Fill Club Growth Director Role

Toastmasters International requires the vacant office of Club Growth Director be filled as quickly as possible. The recommendation was to move a Division Director into the role.



John Rodke, DTM, Division B Director, has been appointed to fill the vacancy. John joined Toastmasters in 2010. He is a member of University of Oregon Club and Yawn Patrol. He has served in many club officer roles, and as the 2013-14 Area 31 Governor. Donna and I look forward to continuing the road to President's Distinguished with John as part of the Trio.

Welcome John!

*The following excerpt is from the April 2015 issue of Voices!*

*I am a Storyteller. The exchange of wisdom between individuals is beautiful, ancient, and essential to our modern lives. Toastmasters is where I have honed this craft for the last six years. I have had the pleasure to exchange stories with thousands of people through this wonderful organization. . . My speech filled, and wisdom adsorbing journey with Toastmasters has enabled me to earn my DTM, serve in the positions of Area 31 Governor and all club officer positions except Treasurer (future growth), and coach and charter clubs. I have learned and practiced the ways to create successful leaders and thriving club environments. I would like to share this wisdom with my Division and District. Using the educational materials coupled with imagination, motivation, and inspiration, I know we can improve the experience for the whole Toastmaster member spectrum. From veteran to rookie, if we challenge ourselves to take chances, set and achieve goals, and have fun along the way, we will THRIVE!*

*John Rodke, DTM*



# FROM THE DESK

## "Seasons" Greetings

by Donna Stark, DTM—Program Quality Director

One of the things I like about living where we do is that we experience seasons. Summer, Winter, Spring, Fall, and my favorite—Football Season—all have their own unique gifts. It seems like this Winter is the gift that keeps on giving. So far I've received the gift of two cancelled Toastmasters meetings, a missed Open House, and a postponed TLI.

Leanna keeps reminding me, "We're Toastmasters. We're flexible!" In that spirit, I offer that the weather provides abundant opportunities for speech material. Share those stories, adventures, and lessons learned with your fellow Toastmasters.

Officer Training season continues through February 28th. We'll get details of the rescheduled TLI out as soon as we nail them down. You won't want to miss it! It's mid-year training season for your Trio, too. We'll be gathering with Trios from other districts for two days of training on January 20th and 21st. It's a great opportunity for us to hear first-hand from TI leaders and staff, and to learn from and network with leaders from other districts.

We're also moving into Contest Season. Club level International Speech and Speech Evaluation contests should be completed no later than March 10th. Area contests will be scheduled between March 11th and March 31st, with Division contests to be held between April 1st and April 22nd. Winners of the Division contests will compete at the District contest at the Spring Conference on May 6th.

I encourage you to give contests a try. I remember my first speech contest. As the president of our fairly new club, I challenged the members with an "I will if you will" proposition. I really didn't expect anyone to take me up on it, but five of us accepted the challenge. You know what they say about comfort zones and

growth. I remember distinctly my dry mouth and my knees shaking uncontrollably. I thought I was going to fall down! And I survived. And grew. And you will, too!

No matter the season, find the gift and make the most of it!





# FROM THE DESK

## Happy New Year to All Our Past, Present, and Future Toastmasters

by John Rodke, DTM—Club Growth Director



When opportunity calls and asks you to step up, what do you do? Say YES!

It is my honor to step up and serve as your new Club Growth Director for the soon-to-be President's Distinguished District 7. That is our goal for 2017. With your help, we can achieve it!

*We want to create strong clubs. Officer training is the "secret sauce" that makes them happen.*

Help us create an awesome 2017 by actively participating in the opportunities offered from the District and merge these with your Club, Area, and Division activities. Cathy has been hearing from members about clubs that they want to sponsor. Let me know and we can help you make these dreams come true.

We want to encourage new members to branch out beyond their clubs and attend TLI (when the snow permits!) and get involved in officer trainings, contests, and conferences. Please take that new energy and direct it with mentoring and encouragement.

### Training

It is vital that we get our club officers trained. With the TLI rescheduling, (check the calendar at: [d7toastmasters.org](http://d7toastmasters.org)) it will be a challenge to meet the requirements, but the important thing is the information. We want to create strong clubs.

Officer training is the "secret sauce" that makes them happen. Please check out the calendar to see when trainings are scheduled near you. If your officers will not make any of them, contact your Area Director so they can get the information to you.

### Incentives

Here are some ways you can have fun AND get credit and rewards for your effort:

Our new BINGO card is available and you will find a copy in this edition of Voices.

It will also be available on the District website. Round one of BINGO went well, but has room for improvement. Let's have a ton of winners this time around.

At the District Fall Conference, Cathy announced two new Membership Contests:

#### *#1 is for Millennials*

The idea is to share the benefits of Toastmasters with other Millennials. Check out the flyer in this issue for requirements to receive this Award. You can be the first to receive the "Extraordinary Millennial Award"

#### *#2 For Everyone in the District*

We have an Individual Outstanding Growth Award and an Outstanding Club Award.

Both contests began on November 5th and will continue to June 30, 2017.

### Club Growth Update

Year start: 173 clubs. Presently 166 paid clubs. 5-8 clubs are bringing their numbers up and should be listed as paid soon. You can do it!

These clubs will bring us back to our base of 173.

I am happy to announce 3 new clubs are scheduling their charter dates in January. A huge shout-out to Wells Fargo, AECOM and Medford VA Rehabilitation who will be charting soon!



February is looking good for 1-3 new clubs chartering. Bringing our possible numbers to 177-180 clubs.

Thank you to the members who are mentoring and sponsoring the clubs. By leaving a lasting legacy, you are ROCKSTARS!

It's a new year. Let's get these clubs chartered! Sponsors of prospective clubs, please reach out to me and discuss what we can do together to get your clubs chartered. [Cgd@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:Cgd@d7toastmasters.org).

A big THANK YOU to our Membership Ambassadors and Kick Off Chairs. You are out in the District doing a great job helping us grow, retain, and thrive.

## Challenge

Do you have a strong club with 20 regular members? Are you comfortable? Feeling inspired or uninspired? I have a fun challenge for you. Visit a struggling club and give a speech on what you are doing to create a fun, dynamic, environment for members to succeed. Share your wisdom and make an impact.

Toastmasters International has some other perks, as well as our own District incentives, for you to help others improve:

### *Talk Up Toastmasters—February 1 – March 31*

Toastmasters love to connect, so take advantage of it. The "Talk Up Toastmasters" membership program is the chance to encourage your members to invite guests to a special meeting where prospective members can learn about Toastmasters' many benefits. Then **add five new, dual or reinstated members** with a join date between February 1 and March 31, and you'll receive a special "Talk up Toastmasters" ribbon to display on your club's banner. Qualifying clubs can also earn a special discount code for 10-percent off their next club order.

Applications and payments for members with a join date between February 1 and March 31 must be received at World Headquarters or online no later than March 31. The addition of transfer and charter members does not count towards "Talk Up Toastmasters" credit..

The winning clubs will be revealed online within a few weeks of the submission deadline.

## Now From The District

In addition to what Toastmasters International is offering, for every club that brings in 5 new, reinstated, or dual members in that time period (who also pay the next renewal), I will send the club 5 New Member pins and one set of the Competent Leader and Competent Communication manuals.

Increase your club's membership 3% over your July 1 base, and we will give your club one of the workshop manual sets.

For example: Leadership Part 1 or 3, Mental Flexibility Part 1 or 2, How to Listen Effectively and others.

## Wrap up

I am jumping in with both feet and trying to fill some large shoes. I beseech your patience and understanding as I learn this new role. I

look forward to helping our District thrive and attain our goal of President's Distinguished District. More importantly, I want you, as a member, to have fun during your journey of becoming a better leader and communicator. The Distinguished Club Program is an awesome system to bring that about. The amazing network we are a part of relies upon selfless individuals who care about others, and want to spread their wisdom. I am honored by this opportunity to help support this worthy cause.

Opportunity is calling out to you. If you want to step up, and step into your next level, reach out to me: [Cgd@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:Cgd@d7toastmasters.org).

I wish you success in sharing your stories that matter.



# Because Communication Isn't Optional

by Peggy Boheman



A few years ago I made the leap into self employment. I began doing the usual things advised for people marketing their own business. I joined networking groups. I set up a social media profile. I started blogging. However there was a wall I was hitting—that of my great resistance to speaking in front of others, even if it was just a 30-second introduction.

I'd heard of Toastmasters and even checked a couple of meetings. However I rationalized that my plate was too full and decided Toastmasters wasn't for me.

Several months later, while sipping coffee with a networking colleague, he said, "You should really consider Toastmasters. I went for a few years and it was great. In fact I need to get back to it." I told him I'd think about it. Should I do it? I went so far as to check online to find out where the local clubs were, but then put it all in the back of my mind.

Just a few days later, as I was driving back from a shopping trip, a bus pulled up in front of me. Plastered on the entire side of the bus was a sign: "Communication is not optional. Toastmasters is the answer."

I'd never in my life seen any kind of advertising for Toastmasters, much less a huge sign on the side of a bus! What were the chances that I'd see this sign when I was still

mulling over whether to join? I took it as a sign that I should sign up—and I did.

I joined Evergreen Toastmasters in the spring of 2015. Over the past year and a half, Toastmasters has increased my confidence and my speaking skill to the point where I found myself up on stage at a Division level contest, having placed 1st in the Table Topics area contest!

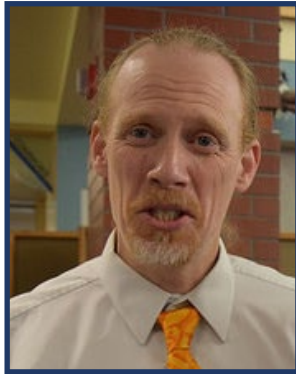
In the last couple of years my business has changed, and I've joined and let go of other activities, but Toastmasters has remained a part of my life.

To be honest, I wondered whether I imagined that sign on the bus. I hadn't seen it since that one time. Until one day when I was feeling overwhelmed and exhausted, with both my business and personal life. I started thinking I should cut back on my activities, and maybe I should quit Toastmasters. THAT VERY DAY I saw a bus with the same sign again.

*Peggy Boheman joined Evergreen Toastmasters in 2015. She is the founder of Technically Done, which focuses on helping their clients with the technological challenges associated with running a business. Contact Peggy and her team if you need assistance with email marketing (setting up email autoresponders), social media, video creation/editing, and website updates through her website at <http://www.technicallydone.com/>.*



**February 8, 2017**  
**7:30-9:15pm**



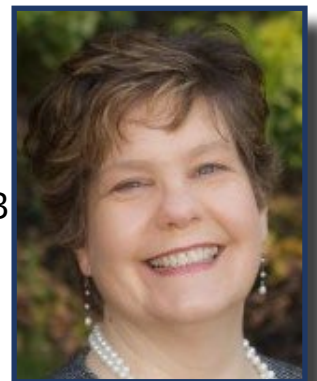
**Why Feedbackers?**  
by Eric Winger, DTM

**Weighty Matters:  
Honesty or Happiness,  
You Decide**  
by Emilie Taylor, DTM



**Join  
Us!**

**Trust Matters**  
by Beth Genly, ACB, ALB



**Feedbackers**

*the Evaluation Workshop Club*

Beaverton Activities Center

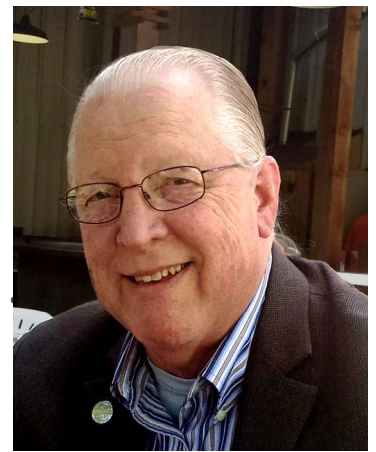
12500 SW Allen Blvd, Beaverton, Oregon

Volume 3 Issue 1 - JULY 2016



# The Value of Networking

by Cleon Cox, DTM



Networking, socializing, gathering, introducing people is something we have all done and still do but may not think so. It started as youngsters when we introduced the new kid on the block to our other friends. It continued through school, college and after. Sometimes we join churches, social groups, fraternal organizations, parent/teacher associations, ad infinitum. Yet when someone suggests that we go out and network, many freeze up, panic, or

up in their learning more and expanding their network. The more people you know and interact with, the more successes you will encounter. The next time someone offers you the opportunity to network, give it thought. What do you have to lose?

Networking doesn't need to be a separate function in our lives. With a little practice, we can find how simply it integrates into our daily lives.

Start slowly. Have fun, meet people, and pay attention to whether you can assist them. Then look back at what you've learned, and

see if any of that knowledge was more than you anticipated.

*Have fun.*

just ignore it.

What's the value of networking? Learning more, getting smarter, meeting more people, saving money, and the list goes on. A fact I have learned is the more people I know the more information I have at my fingertips. I learn trivia, facts, new ideas, and new words. The more people I meet and learn something about, the broader my knowledge base is. Plus I also recognize just how much I don't know!

With the advent of social media, i.e., LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, and a few more, it is easy to keep track of our connections and search them. We've come a long way from the days of a "Rolodex". Today, there are many more ways to search for the people we are connected to.

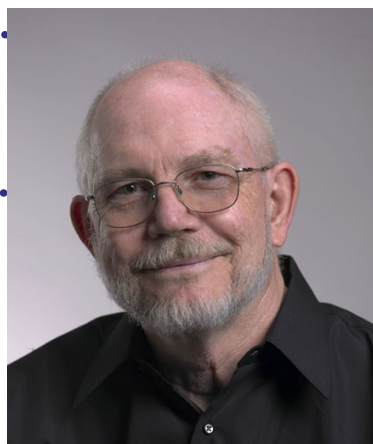
When we learn better listening skills and connect with more folks, we always learn new information, better ways to accomplish tasks, or save money on items we buy.

Your ability to meet more and new people and introduce some of them to others you know, you set off a chain reaction that winds

*Meet people.*

*Learn something.*

*Cleon Cox joined Toastmasters in 1994. He is a member of Wallmasters, New Horizons, and Feedbackers. He is currently serving as Treasurer for New Horizons and Feedbackers. He was awarded the Toastmasters International Presidential Citation in 2010 for his continual support and dedication to the organization. He is a frequent contestant and winner of many speech contests. He is best known for the number of people he has brought into Toastmasters over the years.*



# CALLING ALL CANDIDATES

by Scott Stevenson, DTM - District Leadership Chair

It's that time of year when members of the district should be thinking about how they can make a positive difference in their careers and

personal objectives. One of the ways to help yourself with your planning is to consider how much your Toastmasters membership is helping with your career goals.

Through Toastmasters, you have learned how to better express yourself, gained more confidence in your ability to communicate and lead, and the organization continues to help you improve your skills in those fields.

But Toastmasters, like all organizations larger than a single person, cannot function without a leadership team in place. In our district, we elect a new leadership team each and every year, and it is time to start thinking about your role in all of this. We need you and your leadership skills to help us continue to make District 7 one of the premier districts within Toastmasters International.

As seen by the list below, we have a number of offices that need to be filled before our new Toastmasters year begins on July 1, 2017. Please look at the list and decide how you might best serve the district during the 2017-2018 Toastmasters year. Also consider other members that you might know who would be a good fit for a district office.

## The Process

The D7 Nominating Form (found [HERE](#)) can be used to nominate yourself or someone else for one or more district offices. There will also be an opportunity to announce your candidacy at TLI in February, 2017 or send an email to the District Leadership Chair ([scott19770@gmail.com](mailto:scott19770@gmail.com)) to announce your candidacy.

The following positions will be elected at the 2017 District 7 Spring Conference:

**District Director**—As the district director, you are responsible for directly overseeing and



managing the district's day-to-day operations, finances and human resources. Fortunately, you have a team of district leaders to help you fulfill these responsibilities. You must empower your district leadership team members to work together toward the district mission, while supporting each one in his or her development as a leader. Together with your district leadership team, you participate in District Leader Training, Mid-year Training and online training via the District Leader Tutorials on the Toastmasters International website. To serve as district director, you must have served at least six consecutive months as a club president and at least 12 consecutive months as a program quality director, club growth director or division director, or a combination thereof at the time you take office.

**Program Quality Director**—As the program quality director, you are responsible for all aspects of education and training within the district.

This includes supporting quality club programming efforts, promoting the Distinguished Club Program and planning, organizing and executing the district conference. Together with your district leadership team, you participate in District Leader Training, Mid-year Training and online training via the District Leader Tutorials on the Toastmasters International website. To be program quality director, you must have served at least six consecutive months as club president and at least 12 consecutive months as a program quality

director, club growth director, division director or area director. Once you serve as program quality director for a full year, you may not be reelected to the same office for a succeeding term.

**Club Growth Director**—As the club growth director, you are responsible for all aspects of marketing, club building and club retention efforts within the district. This includes defining an overall marketing strategy for the district, developing outreach and retention efforts with existing community and corporate clubs and penetrating new markets. Additionally, the club growth director supports challenged clubs and helps them to become Distinguished. Together with your district leadership team, you participate in District Leader Training, Mid-year Training and online training via the District Leader Tutorials on the Toastmasters International website. To be club growth director, you must have served at least six consecutive months as club president and at least 12 consecutive months as a program quality director, club growth director, division director

or area director. Once you serve as club growth director for a full year, you may not be re-elected to the same office for a succeeding term.

**Division Director**—As division director, your job is to lead and support the division through the supervision and support of the area directors. One of your primary goals as division director is to ensure that each club achieves its mission and fulfills its responsibilities to its members. To achieve this, you coordinate division activities, set division goals and assist in the training of area and club leaders. To serve as division director, you must have served at least six consecutive months as a member of a district council. The division director may be re-elected to one succeeding term.

All other district roles are appointed positions. These include Public Relations Manager, Administration Manager, Finance Manager, and Area Director





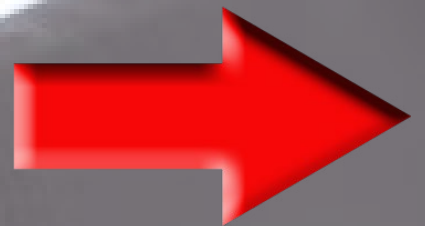
*Are you committed to  
being extraordinary?*

## **Make a Pledge**

*Here's how:*

- Create a club culture that fosters member retention*
- Bring in a new member*
- Start a new club*
- Earn an award*

*Pledge holders are listed  
on the following pages*



# PLEDGE - I'm Committed to Being Extraordinary

Name	Club	Recruit a Member	New Club	CC	AC B/S/G	CL	AL B/S/DTM
Abraham Chandy	New Horizons			•		•	
Adele O'Neal	Toasting Excellence	•		•			
Alan John	PMI Portland Toastmasters	•					•
Alexis Mason	Clark County, Leaders Edge, Thrill of the Quill	•	•	•	•	•	•
Allan Edinger	McMinnville			•		•	
Allison Bennett	Toastmasters for Speaking Professionals				•		•
Amber McMurry	Multco Toasties	•		•		•	
Anne Machalek	Siuslaw Tale Spinners	•	•	CC			S- DTM
Barbara Coleman	Tower Toastmasters			•	•		
Barbara Wade	Noon Talkers			•		•	•
Becky Holm	Roseburg, WOW	•		•			
Beth Ann Fischberg	Babble-On						
Bill Martin	6525 Communicators Plus	•					•
Bob Leach	Babble - On				•		
Bob Smith	Clackamas Stepping Stones			•		•	•
Brenda Bryan	Storymasters			•		•	•
Brice Elmer	Storymasters	•	•		•		•
Brinn Hemmingson	Portland Progressives						•
Cari Corbet-Owen	Vancouver Toastmasters				•		
Carley Meuchel	Clark County			•			
Carmil Ritchey	Clackamas Stepping Stones			•			•
Carol Wagar	Gorge Windbags	•			•		•
Cate Arnold	Silicon Forest	•		•	•	•	•
Cathy French	Siuslaw Tale Spinners	•	•	•			S-DTM
Chapin Zakrzewski	Swan Island			•			
Cleon Cox	Wallmasters	•	•	•	•		
Daniel Flood	Jefferson State, University	•		•	•	•	•
Dave Mason	Clark County, Leaders Edge			•		•	
Dave Shehorn	Clark County	•			•	•	•
David Crockett	Redmond	•		•		•	
David Johnson	Fortunate 500	•		•		•	
Dawnette Hale	Swan Island Toastmasters	•		CC	•	•	

# PLEDGE - I'm Committed to Being Extraordinary

Name	Club	Recruit a Member	New Club	CC	AC B/S/G	CL	AL B/S/DTM
Dee Cort	Redmond Area Toastmasters			.			
Diane Flansberg	Beachtown	.					
Donna Stark	Downtown Public Speakers #595492			.		.	.
Doug Whitmore	New Horizons			.			
Eldred Brown	Babble - On	.	.	.		.	.
Emilie Taylor	Milwaukie Talkies	.	.		S		S
Eric Grigsby	Patriot Talkers	.		.			
Eric Winger	Feedbackers			.			
Erik Bergman	WE Toasted	.		.	.	.	.
Faye Phillips	5442 Highnooners - Bend	.		.		.	
Gabrielle Proust	New Horizons	.		.	.		
Gary Schmidt	Clackamas Stepping Stones	.		.			
Ginger Killion	Daylighters	.	.	.	.		.
Gloria Cox	New Horizons	.					
Gloria Crockett	Redmond			.		.	
Gordon Zimmerman	Marylhurst	.		CC		.	
Harvey Showe	Blue Ox				G		.
Jay Mittal	Noontime					.	.
Jill Ward	Wallmasters				.	.	
Jim Daniel	WOW, Roseburg	.					.
Joe Harper	New Horizons					.	
Joe Anthony	Liberty Talkers	.	.	.	.		.
John Rodke	Yawn Patrol, University Club	.			G	.	.
Karen A. Semprevivo	Blue Ox	.			.	.	.
Ken Harris	Yawn Patrol				.		
Kimberly Burdon	Corvallis	.			.		.
Larry West	Grants Pass Toastmasters	.			SG	CL	S
Leanna Lindquist	Marylhurst	.		CC	S	.	B-S-DTM
LeRoy Nollette	Newbertg				.		
Linda Bard	Toastmasters for Speaking Professionals	.					
Linda Cox	Newberg				.	.	
Linda Potter	A-dec Toastmasters	.			.	.	
Lisa Hutton	Marylhurst				.		.
Lisa Schupp	Toast of Corvallis			.		CL	
Lisa White	Multco Toasties			.		.	.



# PLEDGE - I'm Committed to Being Extraordinary

Name	Club	Recruit a Member	New Club	CC	AC B/S/G	CL	AL B/S/DTM
Lorri Andersen	Daylighters	•		•	•		
Lucas Murphy	Downtown Public Speakers	•			•		
Lyle Schellenberg	2397 - Bootstrappers			CC		CL	•
Mary Canton	New Horizons				•		•
Maureen Adams-Hegwood	Redmond Area Toastmasters	•		•			•
Michel Singleton	Keizer Communicators	•			•		•
Michelle Alba-Lim	Roseburg Toastmasters	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mike Rogers	Noontime	•			•	•	
Mitch McDonald	Marylhurst			•		•	
Nina Smith	Clack-Orators			CC	•	CL	•
Pam Gundrum	Marylhurst	•			•		•
Pam Mills	Oregon City	•	•		•		•
Pat Lynch	Highnooners, Bend	•			•		•
Patrick Locke	Early Words	•	•	•	•	•	•
Patrick Tuohy	West Beaverton			•		CL	
Paul Fanning	Downtown Lunchbunch			CC			B
Paula McDermid	Jefferson State	•		•			
Phyllis A Harmon	Wallmasters International			CC	G	•	DTM
Poppy Olson	Toast of Corvallis	•					
Raynette Yoshida	Marylhurst	•			•		•
Scott Salazar	Bootstrappers			•			
Scott Stevenson	Mentors of Focus			•		•	
Stephanie Magoulas	Noon Talkers	•			•		•
Steve Smith	Redmond Area Toastmasters	•				•	
Susan Baer	Noon Talkers	•				•	
Susan Bender Phelps	Toastmasters for Speaking Professionals	•				•	
Susan Strayer	Advisors				•		
Syrena Glade	Passport to Leadership			•			•
Tanya Myers	Sporty Speakers				•		
Ted J Takamura	Marylhurst Toastmasters				S		
Terri Brewer	Gresham	•		CC		•	
Tom Knapp	Liberty Talkers	•	•		B		B

**Make a Pledge**

# DISTRICT 7 – (January 14 – June 15, 2017)

<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>O</b>
Serve at an area speech contest	Attend Jan TLI session	Visit another Division club	Mentor a New Club	Visit another club in your area
Sponsor a new club member	Participate in the spring contests	Give an educational session at TLI	Give a speech at another club	Write an Article for Voices
Pay your Dues by March 15, 2017	Participate in a Demo meeting	"FREE SPACE"	Visit another Division club	Serve at a division speech contest
Visit another Area club	Club Officer Training	Be a Club Coach	Go to the Spring District Conference	Bring a guest to a club meeting
Write an article for voices	Pay Dues by March 15th	Mentor a Member (New or Existing)	Submit an Education Award	Attend a D7 Webinar

Rules: Cross out a block when you complete a task. You win BINGO if you get five across, five down, diagonal or four corners.

Prizes: Individual members get a magnetic name badge; clubs earn a \$60.00 bookstore credit if more than 50% of the July 1 club membership base (July 1 member base) complete a BINGO card. One prize per member or club.

Contest starts Jan 14, 2017 and ends on June 15, 2017. Completed cards can be emailed to johnrodke@gmail.com or mailed to PO Box 50232 Eugene, OR 97405.

All cards must be received by June 20, 2017 to be eligible for the prizes.

# Extraordinary Millennial Award

- *You are under the age of 30*
- *You are busy, technologically savvy, and willing to use your talents to help others*
- *You help other Millennials find what you have through Toastmasters*

## How to Win

Recruit 5 or more Millennials into your own club or another club in the District between November 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017

and

Help find and sponsor a new club in a young-minded, energetic corporation or community

## New Club Assistance

The Club Growth Director, Club Extension Chair and other members of the New Club Team are there to help you start a new club

For more information, contact: [cgd@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:cgd@d7toastmasters.org)

**Be the First to Receive the  
Extraordinary Millennial Award**



I'm an Extraordinary Millennial



# JOURNEYS

## Brinn Hemmingson - About Moi

by Brinn Hemmingson, ACG, CL



Since I am writing the “Voices” articles . . . this month the feature will be about Moi. I got into Toastmasters quite by chance. I worked in the Liberty Center and overheard someone talking to a co-worker about the Toastmasters meetings which took place in the building. I asked if I could come, too. Once I knew what Toastmasters was, I joined!

I have a degree in Communications; a rather unique one—Aesthetic Communications. That’s poetry, interpretive reading, storytelling—sounds familiar? I was in my element!

But the selling point was the possibility of winning a trophy. Since I was truly awful in sports, I had long ago crossed that off my virtual reality bucket list! I suppose ego was one reason I joined! And I took my first trophy in 2004 at a Division Humor contest. I was hooked!

I am also from a family of activists, so honing speaking skills made a lot of sense. Toastmasters has helped me in my career, from doing well as a receptionist (active listening skills!) to my current career as an Employment Specialist. I am a sales person, match maker, and coach rolled into one on this job!

I have been in four clubs: AdLibs, Thrill of the Quill, Portland Progressives, and Competitive Speakers PDX. I am currently a member of the last two. I’ve been a Public Relations Officer, a VP of Education, and currently I am President of Portland Progressives. I have been a mentor. I am now also an Area Director.

Toastmasters provided me with great friendships and social events. I love the opportunities to learn provided at the conferences and Toastmasters Learning Institute presentations. I think we can learn and grow all of our lives. Watching people in prison clubs and youth clubs demonstrates the real power Toastmasters has to improve lives and offer hope.

It also provided me with a real smile as I watched Obama’s farewell speech. Barack

Obama won the 2008 Grammy Award for the Best Spoken Word Album for the audiobook version of his book, *The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream*. Toastmasters weighed in on why, and there were many great



Brinn Hemmingson as District Evaluation Champion, May 2015.

reasons. It has been rewarding to watch a good speaker from the viewpoint of an evaluator, which is one of my favorite areas of Toastmasters. When a good speaker can move a world—well, that is a goal worthy of recognition. And that’s a personal dream for Moi, too.

*“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” – John Quincy Adams*

## What to Do

Toastmasters love to talk. Take advantage of it. Encourage your members to invite guests to special meetings where regular procedures are augmented by a discussion of Toastmasters' many benefits.

## Awards

- A commemorative banner ribbon for your club
- Qualifying clubs earn a special \$50 coupon off their next club order
- Individuals will receive an Outstanding Growth Award

## What Makes a Club Outstanding?

- A great website and social media presence
- Participates in Toastmasters events and trainings
- In good standing—dues and officer lists submitted on time
- Actively working to achieve goals for Distinguished recognition
- Welcomes and follows up consistently with visitors
- Achieves charter strength



## More Info

The winning clubs will be announced within a few weeks of the contest ending. Winning clubs should allow up to 10 business days to receive their award.

Cathy French, Club Growth Director  
[cgd@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:cgd@d7toastmasters.org)



## Be Part of an Outstanding Club of the Year

## Qualifications

### Individual Outstanding Growth Award

- Help inspire and recruit 2 new members for your club to reach charter strength of 20 people
- Help another club in your area reach their charter strength goal by recruiting 2 new members

*You don't have to do this alone. Form a team of members and each of you follow through.*

### Outstanding Club

- Add 12 new, dual or reinstated members between November 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017
- Renew the same 12 for the dues dates of April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017
- Applications and payments for members who join between November 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017 must be received at World Headquarters by March 31, 2017
- The club must reach 20 members and be distinguished or above

### Newly Chartered Clubs

- Any new club joining District 7 between July 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017 must have on time and renewing dues paid in October 2016 and April 2017 (when applicable)
- New clubs will grow their membership numbers to 25 by March 31, 2017
- New clubs must have all officers trained, officer lists filed and one or more persons should attend one conference or TLI during the year



# Winter Webinars

Snowapocalypse seems to be the new word of the day. Many of you found yourself snow-bound and your club meetings cancelled. District 7 has an opportunity for you to enhance your your Toastmaster experience and benefit your club. Between now and April, we are offering one hour webinars. Pick and choose all that are of interest to you. No matter the weather you can enjoy them all from the comfort and convenience of your own home. We will be adding additional webinars. Check the District 7 Event Calendar for updates. If you have a topic you would like to share with our members please contact Leanna Lindquist dd@d7toastmasters.org

## **Website Wizardry Tuesday, January 24, 7:00 pm – 8:00pm**

In this one hour Webinar, presented by District 7 Public Relations Manager Phyllis Harmon, DTM, you will:

1. See examples of websites in need of refreshing
2. See examples of well-crafted websites
3. Learn how to turn your website into your best marketing tool

[Register Here](#)

## **Navigating the Toastmasters Website Monday, January 30, 7:00 pm – 8:00pm**

In this one hour Webinar, presented by District 7 Director Leanna Lindquist, DTM, you will:

1. Learn how to use Club Central
2. Learn how to manage your account
3. Discover the resources available to you

[Register Here](#)

## **So You Want to Be a Contestant Monday, February 13, 7:00 pm – 8:00pm**

In this one hour Webinar, presented by James Wantz, DTM, you will:

1. Learn how contests can enhance your Toastmaster's experience
2. Learn how to get past the fear
3. Discover resources available to you

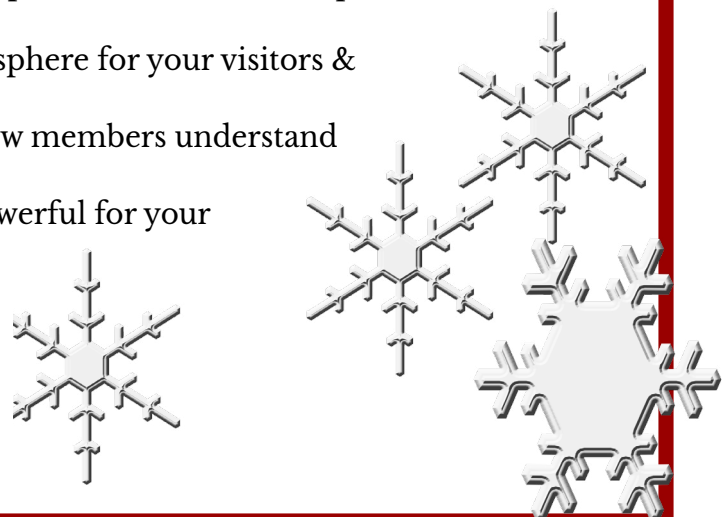
[Register Here](#)

## **New Member Orientation Monday, February 20, 7:00pm – 8:00pm**

In this one hour webinar, presented by Sporty Speakers VP Membership Katrina Rodriguez, you will learn how to:

1. Be Inviting: Make a great impression & atmosphere for your visitors & members
2. Be Informative: Make sure your visitors & new members understand Toastmasters
3. Be Influential: Make your club valuable & powerful for your visitors & members

[Register Here](#)





### **Judges Training Thursday, February 23, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

In this one hour Webinar, hosted by Program Quality Director Donna Stark, DTM, you will

1. Learn the difference between judging a contest speech evaluating a speech
2. Learn how to follow the judge's guide when you mark your ballot
3. Learn what constitutes a good judge

[Register Here](#)

### **WOW Open House Wednesday, March 1, 8:00 pm – 9:00pm**

In this one hour webinar, presented by District Director Leanna Lindquist, DTM, you will learn:

1. How to create an EVENT that attracts guests
2. How to plan and publicize
3. What do we do once it's over

[Register Here](#)

### **Build a Workshop March 13, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

In this how-to webinar, presented by District 7 Public Relations Manager Phyllis Harmon, DTM attendees will

1. Explore workshop ideas
2. Determine Market Saturation
3. Decide what material to share

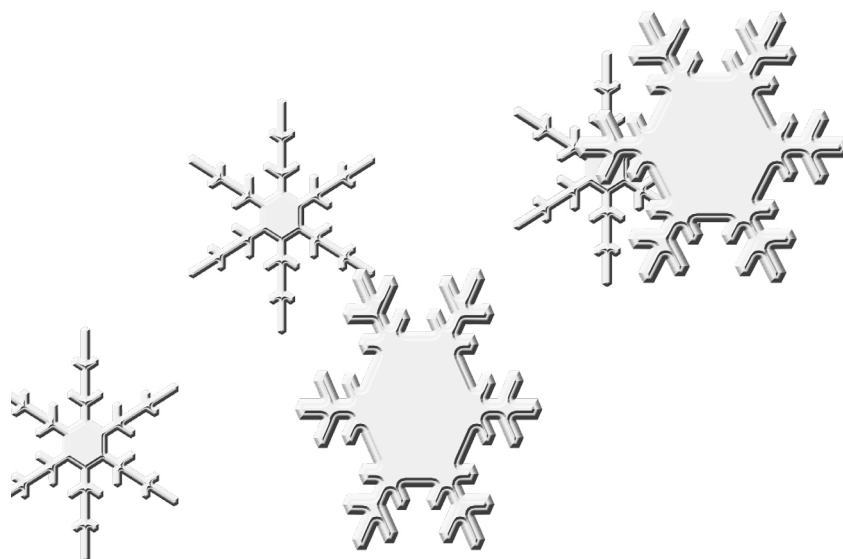
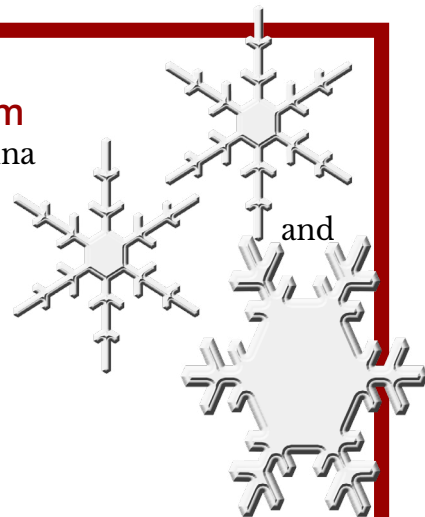
[Register Here](#)

### **Tools for Membership Success Thursday, March 16, 7:00 pm – 8:00pm**

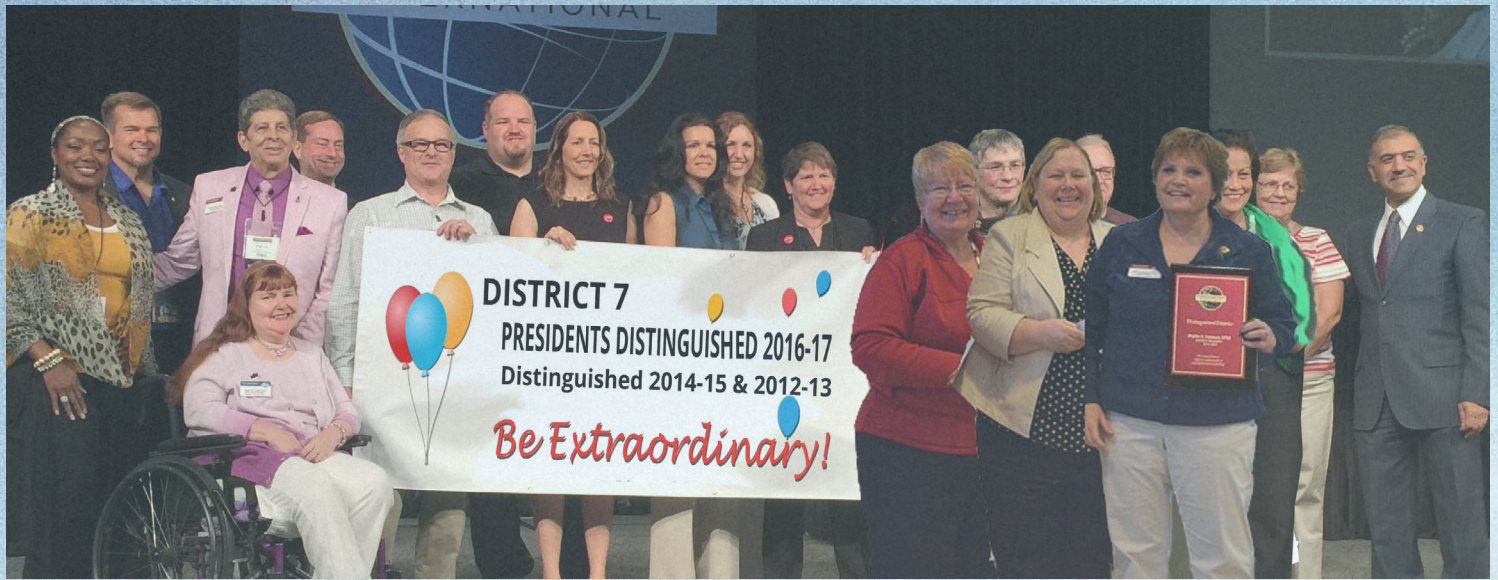
In this one hour Webinar, presented by Club Growth Director John Rodke, DTM, you will learn:

1. How to gain new members
2. How to retain existing members
3. How to invigorate your club.

[Register Here](#)







# ROAD TO PRESIDENTS DISTINGUISHED



## District 07 Performance



Paid Clubs	
Base	To Date
<b>173</b>	<b>165</b>
Goals	
Distinguished	<b>179</b>
Select Distinguished	<b>182</b>
President's Distinguished	<b>187</b>

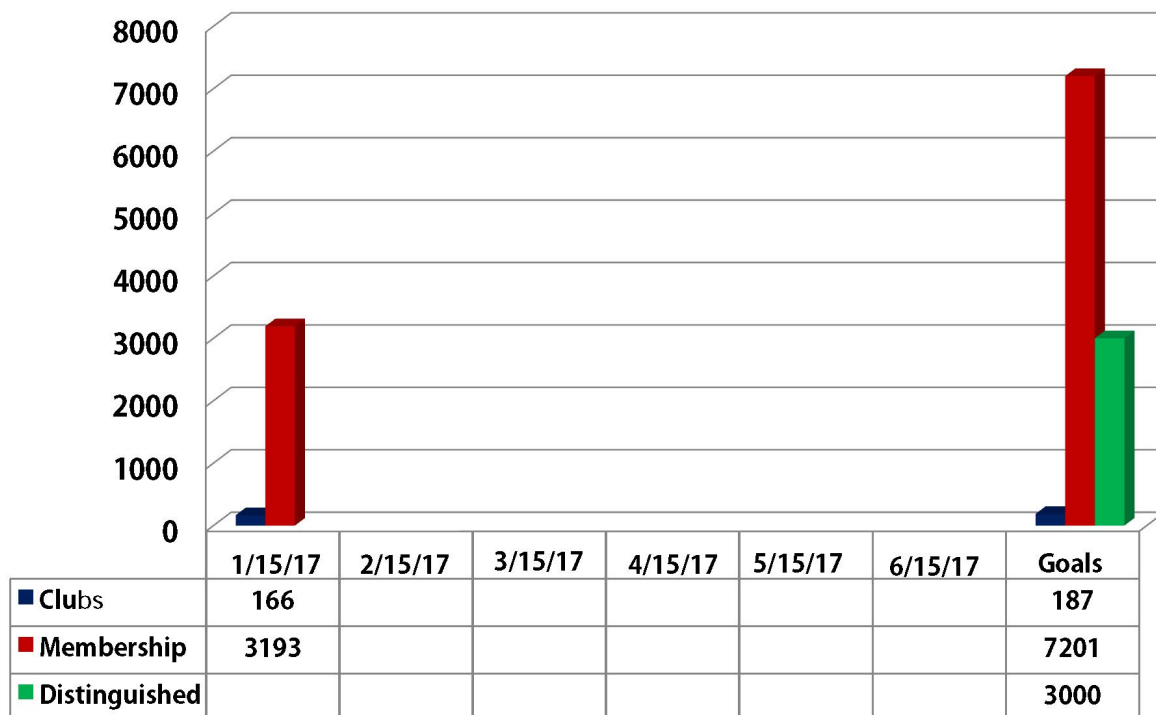


Payments	
Base	To Date
<b>6,667</b>	<b>3,152</b>
Goals	
Distinguished	<b>6,868</b>
Select Distinguished	<b>7,001</b>
President's Distinguished	<b>7,201</b>



Distinguished Clubs	
Base	To Date
<b>173</b>	<b>0</b>
Goals	
Distinguished	<b>70</b>
Select Distinguished	<b>78</b>
President's Distinguished	<b>87</b>

## On the Road to Presidents Distinguished





Four or five years ago you wouldn't have recognized me. I sat in the back of the classroom and avoided talking to anyone. I am taking this opportunity to communicate to the readers even the youth have a platform to learn and practice.

I was introduced to Toastmasters by one of my dad's friends, Coach Tahseen Mohammed. My first day there as a guest, I was amazed to see how kids my age were speaking in front of crowds of 30 people. The meeting compelled me to join the club if I wanted to get better at speaking and my parents knew it as well. As time passed I could tell that my speaking skills were getting better, I wasn't as scared to go up and present in class or ask questions. Not only my speaking skills were improving, along with that I was being less scared to speak and jumped in to take chances, this helped me in making more friends.

After being a member for four years, it was the time for the club elections. A feeling to step up and try something new, made me decide to run for an officer role. It came as a surprise, I got elected to the FUTURE STARS Club as secretary. Initially, I thought it would just glamorize my college resume and I wouldn't need to do much as a secretary.

I couldn't have been more wrong. I felt like this may have been the best choice I made. Becoming secretary taught me many useful skills. For example, how to take good notes because I had to take notes throughout the meetings. I also had to email the parents weekly, reminding

them to bring snacks, and the members for their reason of absence, I especially had to manage my time because there was quite a bit to do, such as email the meeting minutes after our weekly meeting, the recognition for the best evaluator and the best table topics speaker as well as, at the same time, other lessons like how to do things on the fly when I missed a deadline. I feel pride in completing a year in this role as I learned from the members, officers and coaches of the club and improved from the person I was before becoming a secretary.

I recognized that Toastmasters isn't just for developing your speaking skills. There is a lot more that comes with it, You enhance your leadership skills, learn how to manage yourself, and build a lot of self-esteem and confidence with diligence. My goal for next year is to finish my CC manual.

*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 Coach Humaira at [futurestarspdx@gmail.com](mailto:futurestarspdx@gmail.com). Visitors are encouraged to visit the club and see for themselves why Future Stars should be part of their educational journey.*

*"I'm a great believer that any tool that enhances communication has profound effects in terms of how people can learn from each other, and how they can achieve the kind of freedoms that they're interested in." — Bill Gates*

# HIDDEN TREASURE

## TI Zone "A" Conference Portland, Oregon, January 18-19, 1952

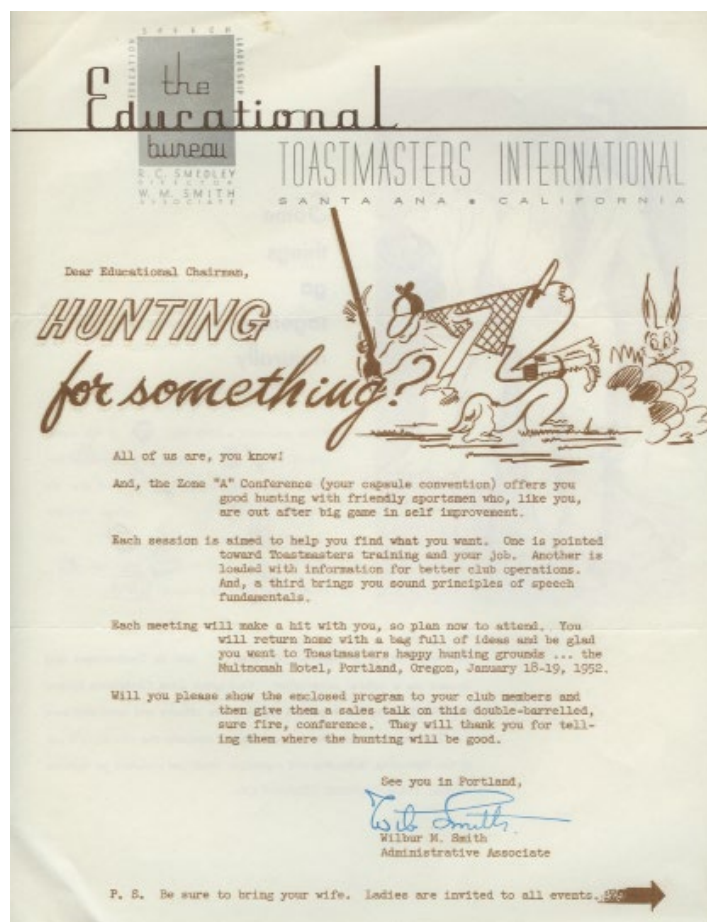
by Harvey Schowe, DTM - District 7 Historian



Sixty four years ago Portland hosted the Toastmasters International Zone "A" Educational Conference. George Reed, International President, announced in the April 1951 Toastmasters Magazine that the Convention and Educational Bureau planned three advanced educational conferences. They would be held at widely separated locations. Ralph Smedley further elaborated on this idea in a June 1951 paper titled "Zone Conferences in Review". The three zone educational conferences were planned to provide an alternative to the high cost of travel to the International Conference. Attendance at zone conferences was higher than at the international conferences.

October 25, 1951, Wilbur M. Smith, Administrative Associate for Toastmasters International, announced a mid-year board meeting and International Zone Conference to be held at the Multnomah Hotel in Portland, Oregon on January 18 and 19, 1952. District 7 officers and club members formed publicity, housing, meeting, banquet, hospitality, entertainment, registration, and finance committees. Carl Hasenkamp, Past District 7 Governor, served as the Special Session Leader, or President's Banquet Chairman. Harry LaDou, past member of Salem Toastmasters Club #138, Past District 5 Governor and International Director, presented a seminar on club's responsibility in the International Structure. Salem Club #138 members made presentations on Robert's Rules of Order while Portland Toastmasters club #31 members demonstrated hand gestures. A Tillamook club member made a special presentation at the evening dinner meeting. Chalmar Blair, second District 7 Governor and Portland Toastmasters Club # 31 member, provided a seminar on Effective Speech in Personnel Relations. Tenor Walter J. Miesen, High Dawn Toastmasters club #730, sang during the conference. Miesen was a choir director, organist and sang solo at Portland Symphony Orchestra, Hood River Music

Festival and Portland Oratorio Chorus. He was invited to sing at the Chicago Conference. A March 1952 Toastmasters Magazine article mentioned that 400 club members attended this successful conference. Toastmasters International Officers held a mid-year board meeting and participated in the educational sessions. Conference programs were at the club level and provided members opportunities to share ideas. An article summed up the conference, "A Conference Which Really Conferred". Ralph Smedley's last visit to Portland, Oregon was at this conference. He sent Carl Hasenkamp a February 25, 1952 letter praising him for the excellent work organizing the conference. In addition, Smedley sent him the autographed book, "The Voice of the Speaker".







# PUBLIC RELATIONS

## Boost Club Membership in 2017 Embrace the Online Option

by Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM - Public Relations Manager

In August 2015, Toastmasters International threw open the membership door giving clubs the ability to recruit members who might never cross their thresholds by attending club meetings online.

The 2015 protocol change gave clubs a boost in member retention and recruitment opportunities. Members, who leave because of



relocations, changes in work schedules, or who can no longer make their way to the meetings, could now stay connected via the Internet. Niche clubs, like Feedbackers, Storymasters, and Thrill of the Quill, could attract remote members by providing online options.

The days of hearing “if only” comments can be relegated to the annals of history. You know the conversation, “if only you met at a more reasonable time/location/day of the week, I would love to join your club!” Now you can respond with, “Never fear! I have a solution that will work for you!”

So the question is, *What’s holding you back?* If your club is recruiting new members, or looking for ways to keep the ones you’ve got, then an online option should be part of your public relations strategy.

As with any new strategy, you need to know the ground rules and develop a plan of action.

Let’s look at Toastmasters International’s requirements for adding remote members to your club as well as some techie stuff to help you get started:

**Protocol 2.3.A.II**—Participants must be able to communicate with all other members in attendance at the in-person meeting.

**Protocol 2.3.A.III**—Online participation in a club meeting does not include voice only teleconferencing, recorded video, or recorded audio.

**Protocol 2.3.C.**—Each club determines the type of online platform(s) to be used and must acquire it at the club’s expense if there is a fee for use.

**Protocol 2.3.D.**—Each member participating in online club meetings will provide their own technology at their own expense if there is a fee for use.

For those of you who are giving me the stink-eye after reading the above requirements and taking a look at your club budgets, stop it! Bringing remote members “into the room” doesn’t have to be a tech-heavy, budget-busting ordeal.

Here are a few meeting location basic must-haves:

- Internet connection
- Laptop or tablet
- Webcam
- External speakers/microphone
- Skype, Google Hangouts, Facebook, etc.

Hmmm, that’s not such a daunting list, is it? Connecting to the Internet is a must. If your meeting location doesn’t offer a connection, perhaps one of your members has hotspot capabilities on their smartphone.

If your laptop or tablet is less than 5 years old, it probably has a built-in webcam. You can strategically place it at eye level in the meeting room, where it spans the majority of the space, allowing everyone to be “in the online meeting room.”

Built-in speakers on electronic devices are not



designed to broadcast audio into large spaces. It will be much easier to hear presentations, evaluations, and comments from your remote members if you use external speakers.

The same holds true for built-in microphones. They are puny at best. They pick up the sound of their own fans making it difficult for people to separate the mechanical sounds from the presenter voices. A better option might be a speakerphone or an omni-directional microphone placed in the middle of the table.

Members who join remotely also need a few basic must-haves:

- Internet connection
- Computer, tablet, or laptop
- Webcam
- Headset with microphone
- Quiet space free of distractions and noise
- Skype, Google Hangouts, Facebook, etc.

An Internet connection is a must. So too is a computer, tablet, or laptop preferably with a 2Ghz or higher processor and at least 4Gb of RAM. Slower computers seem to have difficulty maintaining a connection to the call for a 60-90 minute meeting. (I suppose you could use your smartphone, but check your data plan and battery life.)

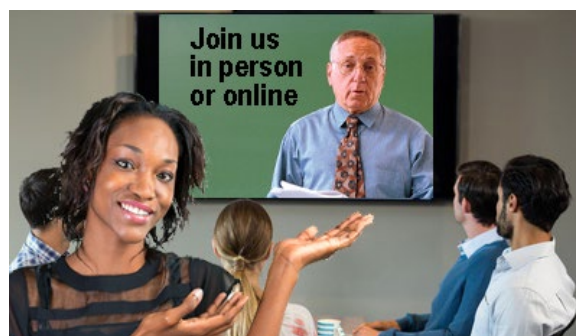
As a member of Great White North Online Toastmasters, I've found that joining remotely does require attention to environmental details. I relegate myself to a quiet space, with a blank or non-cluttered wall behind me. The spouse, dogs, and TV are beyond the closed door. The phone is muted, and room lighting adjusted to keep shadows off my face.

A headset with a microphone works much better than trying to use the computer microphone. A headset allows me to clearly hear the presenters—a very important feature when I am the evaluator! The microphone muffles background noise and allows my voice to be heard. Because clutter is a distraction, a blank wall behind me focuses attention where it belongs—on the speaker!

Choose a free Voice over the Internet Protocol (VOIP) like Skype, Google Hangouts, Facebook, etc. to connect your in-house meeting to your remote members.

Before the meeting, test your equipment and connections.

Okay, those are the basics. Here's how to add this option to your public relations/marketing efforts:



**Website/Social Media**—Update your website and social media pages to include a note about attending online

**White Paper**—Add this article as a download to your website and social media page

**News Release**—Create a news release and let the world know your club is offering a VOIP solution

**Business cards/printed materials**—add a note to your printed club materials about the online option

No matter whether your club is bursting at the seams or there are empty chairs at your meetings, adding an online option is a smart strategy for growth and retention. Make a commitment to help your club grow and your members become better connected in 2017 by adding an online option to your club mix. For more information, contact me at [phyllis.harmon@d77toastmasters.org](mailto:phyllis.harmon@d77toastmasters.org).

### ***PROTOCOL 2.3. Online Attendance at Club Meetings***

A. Online attendance is defined as any member participating and interacting in a club meeting through the use of live audio and video conferencing tools utilizing an online platform.

I. Participants are not in the same physical location as the rest of the club members attending the in-person meeting.

II. Participants must be able to communicate with all other members in attendance at the in-person meeting.

III. Online participation in a club meeting does not include voice-only teleconferencing, recorded video, or recorded audio.

B. Clubs that opt to allow online attendance at the regular in-person meeting must specify this in the Addendum of Standard Club Options.

C. Each club determines the type of online platform(s) to be used and must acquire it at the club's expense if there is a fee for use.

D. Each member participating in online club meetings will provide their own technology at their own expense if there is a fee for use.



# Management as a Substitute Form of Leadership

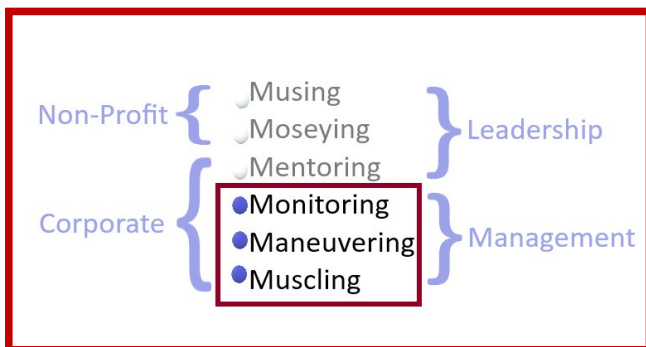
by Joel Conarton, CC

*In this second article in a series on leadership, Joel continues his discussion on the six levels of management styles as interpreted by the people most affected by those in charge.*

## Where 99.9% of us sit

In the M Leadership Model discussed last month, I discussed 6 levels that generically describe a style those in leadership positions fit into. Measured not by the leader's beliefs, but by the responses of those who are 'supposed' to be following. Measured not when things are on an even keel, but when it really counts—that usually means tough situations. But, it also reflects on our regular style.

This month's article covers the second three levels and traits usually found at each. It identifies the levels, it does not try to recommend changes. It is promoting awareness, which could lead to change. We will start at the bottom of the list where 90% of most managers rule and move upwards to the most desirable traits exhibited by less than 1%.



## The First 90% - Muscling

In the corporate world, most managers are not given leadership directives. They may get assigned training, but for the most part, managers are left to their own devices when it comes to choosing how to lead. Without a conscious choice of how to lead, leadership usually comes from what they have experienced in the past—which is to say, they kick it forward.

We all know a muscling manager when we hear, "Do it because I said so.", "How badly do you want this job?", "If you don't like it, you know where the door is." But what about the less subtle forms of muscling? "That is just the way we do it around here", "That is the way it has always been done.", "If you have a better way, let us know"?

Actions speak louder than words. The last example could be an honest "let us know", but usually is a form of shutting down opposition. When there is inactive listening, or lack of response to suggestions, then this is another form of muscling.

The biggest upside of muscling is that 'stuff gets done', and it gets done exactly the way the manager wants it done. The tradeoff is that employees don't feel motivated or part of the process. They truly are a cog in the machine.

## The Next 9% - Maneuvering

Maneuvering has some of the same pitfalls, but has a better upside in that things do change for the better, and accomplishments are celebrated. What is found is that success tends to be celebrated with the wrong people. These are the managers who spread fault, and collect credit for other people's work.

The employees don't really lose out on those promotions. A maneuvering leader, when promoted, will take their 'best' employees with them. Why would they lose the assets that keep giving them benefit?

Productivity increases as people start to feel a part of the process. There is a limitation to productivity in that culture, as a lot of effort is put into the spin for credit, and the barriers and protections people create to try and prevent it.

## Down to the 0.9% - Monitoring

The largest tradeoff with monitoring, from maneuvering, is a big jump in productivity. Focus moves from, “are you done yet” to “is it going to be done on time, and what are the results going to be”.

Open discussion can be had about ways of doing the work—the how. While business objectives are being met, considerations into how the work is done are taken and changes made. Changes that benefit the customers, but also that benefit the workers.

More time is spent focused on business than each other. That extra time can be spent looking into ways of finding more time (which somehow ends up in more work . . .).

## Yet to come

The levels discussed here tend to be more about management than leadership. A distinction that is lost many times. But if considered more frequently, could have big dividends to organizations.

Next month’s article will cover Musing, Moseying, and Mentoring. Followed by discussion about the distinctions between management and leadership, why leadership tends to fail in the corporate world, wrap up with how to perform a self-analysis, and make a conscious choice about the level that best fits the future of your organization.

... perform a self-analysis, and  
make a conscious choice ...

*Joel Conarton, Area 65 Director, is owner of Catalystis LLC, where he coordinates consultants, coaches and service providers to provide greater results for all types of organizations.*



## On the Road Again. . .

If you are in the Portland, Vancouver, Eugene or Medford area, be on the lookout for transit ads. Buses are already on the roads displaying the ads on sides and tails. If you spot an ad, snap a photo, safely of course, and email it to our Club Growth Director Cathy French at [cgd@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:cgd@d7toastmasters.org)

We will have two winners in Medford, and one in Portland, Eugene and Vancouver. Our 5 winners will each receive a blue Toastmasters umbrella. Keep your eyes peeled. Bonus points if you post it on Facebook.



Congratulations to *Be Extraordinary*  
Pin recipients—Brinn Hemmingson,  
Scott Stevenson, Phyllis Harmon and  
Emilie Taylor





# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Last Name	First Name
McMinnville Toastmasters	Armstrong	Betty
West Beaverton Club	Baglai	Rebecca
Smooth Talkers Club	Biederbeck	Karl
New Beginnings Toastmasters	Coleman	Pete
Gorge Windbags	Crowell	Margaret
Babble-On Toastmasters Club	Dejesus	Alex
Cedar Hills Club	Eppley	Michael
Portlandia Club	Hanna	Jessica
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Hatcher	Derek
Gresham Toastmasters Club	Langford	Andrew
Toast of Corvallis Toastmasters Club	Lloyd	Timothy
Portland Club	Matthews	Paula
Toasting Excellence Club	Matti	Crystal
Essayons Club	Miller	Jaclynn
Yawn Patrol Club	Naidu	David
Eco Voices Toastmasters	Oberg	Jessica
McMinnville Toastmasters	Parker	Laurie
WE Toasted Toastmasters	Rau	Gina
WE Toasted Toastmasters	Skelton	Geoffrey
Toast to US	Skelton	Geoffrey
Portlandia Club	Smith	Austin
Hood River Club	Smith	Shelley
Gorge Windbags	Stelzer	Bethany
Toastmasters For Speaking Professionals	Trainees	Margo
Swan Island Toastmasters	Tuscano	Warren
Spirit Trackers	Webb	Andrew

# Happy Anniversary to January Clubs

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

Charter Date	Years	Club
1/5/2004	13	Bridge
1/29/2004	13	Downtown Public Speakers
1/1/1949	68	Evergreen
1/1/1995	22	Motormouths
1/1/1963	54	Myrtlewood Hootowlers
1/15/2003	14	Pearl District
1/13/2016	1	Portland Rotary
1/1/1977	40	Professionally Speaking
1/4/2010	7	Swan Island
1/20/2011	6	Testmasters
1/1/2008	9	The Standard Speakeasy
1/1/1995	22	Toasting Excellence
1/1/1955	62	Totem Pole
1/1/1946	71	Vancouver
1/1/1981	36	Wallmasters International

A special shout out to Evergreen, Myrtlewood Hootowlers, Totem Pole, and Vancouver who passed the half-century mark!



# HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

AWARD	DATE	MEMBER	CLUB NAME
CC	12/1/2016	Brewer, Terri A.M.	Gresham Toastmasters Club
CC	12/1/2016	Brotherston, Joe	Gresham Toastmasters Club
CL	12/1/2016	Chappell, Andrew	Capital Toastmasters Club
CC	12/6/2016	Clarke, Joseph J	Bootstrappers Club
CC	12/4/2016	Eaton, Kevin	Smooth Talkers Club
CL	12/4/2016	Greenebaum, Hilary Lang	Timber Talkers
CC	12/4/2016	Greenebaum, Hilary Lang	Timber Talkers
CC	12/6/2016	Haydon, Steve	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
DTM	12/1/2016	Heitz, Nena	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
CC	12/2/2016	Howard, Eric W.	Noontime Nomads Club
CC	12/12/2016	Kleffner, Paul J.	Babble-On Toastmasters Club
ACS	12/2/2016	Li, Beverly F.	Electric Toasters Club
ACB	12/6/2016	Mathieu, Stevie Elaine	Evergreen Club
CC	12/5/2016	Peil, Rodman Hunter	Daylighters Club
ACB	12/1/2016	Pfeiffer, Paul E.	Siuslaw Tale Spinners Club
CC	12/3/2016	Rasmussen, Janet K.	Oregon State Toastmasters
CC	12/12/2016	Rutledge, James T.	Lebanon Toastmasters
CL	12/15/2016	Schellenberg, Lyle W.	Bootstrappers Club
CC	12/1/2016	Shaw, Jo Anna	Jefferson State Toastmasters
ACS	12/12/2016	Takamura, Ted J	Marylhurst Toastmasters
ALS	12/6/2016	Taylor, Emilie	Milwaukie Talkies
ACB	12/12/2016	Walker, Linda Lucille	Newberg Toastmasters Club
ACS	12/3/2016	Wantz, James	Feedbackers Toastmasters Club
ACS	12/7/2016	West, Larry J.	Club Northwest Toastmasters



# TRIPLE CROWN AWARD PINS

MEMBER	AWARDS	
Anthony, Joseph D.	3	LDREXC, CL, ACB
Arnold, Cate Ann	6	ALB, ACS, DTM, ALS, ACG, LDREXC
Bennett, Allison	4	ALS, ACG, LDREXC, DTM
Brewer, Daniel S	3	CC, ALB, CL
Carr, Jeffrey E.	3	CC, ALB, CC
Edinger, Allan B.	4	CC, CC, CC, CC
French, Cathy	3	LDREXC, ALS, DTM
Harmon, Phyllis A.	7	CC, ALS, LDREXC, CC, DTM, ACG, CC
Heitz, Nena	4	CL, ALS, DTM, ACG
Kleffner, Paul J.	3	CL, ALB, CC
Knapp, Thomas K.	3	ACB, ALB, CL
Lee, Maria R.	3	CC, CL, CC
Lindquist, Leanna	7	DTM, ACG, ALB, ACS, ALS, LDREXC, CC
Machalek, Anne M.	4	LDREXC, CC, DTM, ALS
Shehorn, David A.	3	CL, ALB, ACB
Taylor, Emilie	4	ACS, CL, LDREXC, ALS
Tjan, Vanessa	3	ACB, CL, CC
Tully, Kathleen	5	DTM, CC, CL, LDREXC, ALS
Wantz, James	3	ACS, ACB, CC
West, Larry J.	5	ACB, CL, CL, CL, ACS
Winger, Eric A.	3	CC, ACG, DTM
Zakrzewski, Chapin O.	4	LDREXC, ALS, ACG, DTM

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



**RESCHEDULED**  
**New Date Announced**

FEB 04

## **Rescheduled Toastmasters Leadership Institute - Winter, 2017**

by Donna Stark, 2016-17 Program  
Quality Director

**Register**

### DESCRIPTION

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." ~ John Quincy Adams. And Andy Goldsworthy is quoted as saying, "Snow provokes responses that reach right back to childhood." I don't know about you, but I'm ready to grow up and it will take more than snow and ice to keep these Toastmasters from their appointed TLI rounds!

TLI has been rescheduled for Saturday, February 4th. It's also been relocated to the Al Kader Shrine Center, 25100 SW Parkway Avenue in Wilsonville, near I-5 and across the road from Costco.

Our featured keynote speaker will be Thomas Cox. We're in the process of determining whether we need to adjust the agenda to accommodate our new location, and we'll have it available asap. We will have breakfast available during the 7:00 - 8:00 registration hour which will include oatmeal, hard boiled eggs, yogurt, fruit, muffins, coffee and tea. A suggested on-site donation of \$2 is requested to help offset the cost.

Let's kick off the second half of the Toastmasters year with enthusiasm! TLI - see you there!

### DATE AND TIME

Sat, February 4, 2017  
7:00 AM – 1:00 PM PST

[Add to Calendar](#)

### LOCATION

Al Kader Shrine Center  
25100 SW Parkway Avenue  
Wilsonville, OR 97070

[View Map](#)

# **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 Here**

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





# TELL ME A STORY

## Truth Matters

by Beth Genly, ACB, ALB

*Beth shares a two-part story she recently heard from her adult daughter, Kim. She and her husband, Chris, had lost the details over the years. But hearing it now, in our present climate, Beth asked Kim for permission to share her story.*

Before I tell you the two parts of my daughter Kim's story, let me set the stage for you. In the early 1990's I lived with my little family—husband and two kids—in New Haven, Connecticut.

Our daughter Kim was about 6 years old. Our son Caleb would have been maybe 18 months—a strawberry blond toddler, “my little Peach.” Kim was a sometimes-bossy, always-loving big sister. Caleb especially enjoyed the exciting stories she'd make up to tell him.

We were the only white family living in an otherwise all-black, pleasant middle-class neighborhood on top of a high hill. Naturally, all our daughter's playmates there were various shades of black and brown.

I used to joke to my husband Chris that because we didn't get around to mowing our lawn quite as frequently as everyone else on our block, we were probably “bringing down the property values.” Behind that lame joke, I felt an uneasy sense of white privilege. I suspected we could be more lax about our lawn because our middle class status was more secure.

But though our neighborhood was certainly peaceful, all was not well in our little city. New Haven in the 1990's was struggling to overcome severe gun violence inflamed by poverty, gangs, drugs, and racism. Some evenings, as I prepared our family's supper, I'd hear distant sounds drifting up from the bottom of the hill, through my kitchen window. Pow. Pow pow. Pow.



### Kim's Story—Part One:

One evening, while I was at work, Chris took the kids to McDonald's for dinner. As Chris waited in line, the kids drifted away from him to the Happy Meal toy display, “Dino-Motion Dinosaurs!”

As Kim and Caleb looked at the toys, an African American child rushed over to look at the display, too. As Kim related the events:

The kid was so tiny, he was even more unsteady on his feet than her little brother. He bumped into Caleb and almost knocked him down. Since her Daddy didn't see, Kim felt it was her job to be the protector. So she used her body to block the little kid from her brother.

What happened next, she said, “haunted me for years.” The little kid's watchful mom spotted Kim blocking her child. She swooped over to defend her boy.

“You, girl! Those toys aren't yours. You think you have more right to look at them than my boy? Don't you touch my boy!”

Kim, astonished, thought, “This mommy thinks I'm a bad girl!”

I stepped hastily aside, the little kid wobbled up to look at the toys, and his protective mom went back to standing in line.

Chris, standing in a different line, had missed the whole byplay.

Moments later, the little boy, bored with the toys, wandered over to a (to him) towering stack of booster

seats and began trying to pull one down. From her place in line, his mom scolded, “Anton, stop that. If you pull on those, they’ll fall on your head and you’ll get hurt.”

As soon as she turned away, the little kid began to pull on the boosters again.

Kim saw her chance! She could recover this mom’s esteem and feel helpful and good again. So she went over by the boy, put her back against the stack and her arm out in front of the boy. She said, “Your mom said no.”

For the little boy’s mom, that was the last straw. From her place at the front of her line, she screamed, “You leave my boy alone!”

Chris turned and stared at her. “What happened?”

“She’s a bully! She’s pushing my boy around!”

My shy, introverted husband yelled back, “She did not. My daughter wouldn’t do that!”

The woman waggled her head, her hand on her hip, as she yelled, “You’d better take another look!”

The whole restaurant went quiet. Except for that mom, who kept right on yelling.

The black manager, from behind the counter, murmured, “Would you like your order to go, sir?”

“Yes, please.” Chris gathered up the bags, scooped Caleb up and hurried Kim out.

Kim says, “I remember sitting in the back seat, holding my French fries, trying to make sense out of what had just happened.”

## Kim’s Story, Part 2:

Kim is not sure how much later this second part of her story occurred, but she said, “I could see the tops of tables, now.”

Our family was staying at a hotel somewhere, one of those places that offers a self-serve breakfast in the dining room. Among other offerings, they had a lineup of those little boxes of cereals: Cheerios, Raisin Bran, Corn Flakes, Froot Loops.

Kim grabbed the Froot Loops. I, her watchful mom, said, “No way, kiddo. Put those back. Those are pure sugar, and you are not having sugar for breakfast. Make a better choice.”

Kim waited until I turned away. Then she snagged the box of Froot Loops, dropped it on her breakfast tray, and draped her napkin over it.

As we carried our trays from the overcrowded breakfast lounge back to our hotel room, Kim lagged behind the rest of us.

Her Dad loomed up beside her. “Did you take those Froot Loops, after your mom told you not to?”

She opened her beautiful blue eyes wide. “No, Daddy.”

“Yes, you did, I saw you. And now you are lying to me. I think I know why you are lying. It’s uncomfortable to be caught misbehaving. But do you know why telling the truth is so important, even when it would be much more comfortable to tell a lie?”

Mutely, Kim shook her head.

“Do you remember that day when that mommy in McDonald’s yelled at you, and how I jumped in right away to defend you, even though I had no idea what had happened until after it was all over?”

Kim nodded.

“Well, I knew you were a good person, and I trusted you to make good decisions. I didn’t have to wonder about that. I just spoke up for you.” He paused, to let that sink in. “So, if something like that ever happens again, I don’t ever want to have to hesitate, to wonder if you’re a good person. I want to always keep my trust that you are a person that tells the truth and does the right thing.” Again, he paused. “Let’s walk together back to the breakfast room, so you can put those Froot Loops back and pick some other cereal.”

They did.

Chris quickly forgot the whole thing. To him, it was just another day, another moment in the endless parental struggle to civilize our young savages.

What moral do you hear, in this two-part story?

When our now-30-year-old Kim told us this story, she said, “To me, those moments were critical. I began to consider that my own actions



could affect how other people saw me. Even more -- I had never realized before that my own actions actually determined whether I was truly a good person. As a kid, I wrestled in secret for a very long time with these events. I wondered, WAS I really a good person?"

I asked Kim what the moral of these events were for her, now. She grinned, and said, "Chris Genly should always be your Daddy."

I'm really glad she loves her dad.

But I'm pretty sure you might find other morals in this tale. For instance, the consistency of the messages we give our kids. I mean—McDonald's is okay for dinner, but Froot Loops are not okay for breakfast?

Or how about this one: our interactions are powered by the stories we tell ourselves about other people.

And one more:

## Truth Matters

*Beth Genly joined Toastmasters in 2014. She is a member of Toastmasters for Speaking Professionals and Feedbackers. Beth is currently serving as the VP Public Relations for Toastmasters for Speaking Professionals. She is co-founder of [Burnout Solutions](#), and co-author of Save Yourself from Burnout (due for release in Spring 2017). For more information or to schedule Beth as keynote or workshop provider, contact her at [info@burnout-solutions.com](mailto:info@burnout-solutions.com)*

## CALL FOR SPEAKERS AND CONFERENCE STAFF

**A**re you a dynamic, engaging presenter? Do you have a topic related to communication or leadership that others can benefit from personally or professionally? If so, let us know by [clicking here!](#)

**W**e are looking for a few good people who enjoy working behind the scenes. These people will help make the District 7 Spring conference a resounding success. Want to lend a hand, be influential, and let your creative juices flow? Let us know by [clicking here!](#)





# How to Rock It Like a TED Talk

Cathey Armillas, DTM, Keynote

## Learn

- ✓ Distinct Differences Between Presentations & TED Talks
- ✓ How to Use Those Differences in Your Presentations

### District 7 Spring Conference: Your Road to Extraordinary

May 6, 2017 — 7am-6pm

Al Kader Shrine Center, Wilsonville, Oregon

Friday Pre-conference workshop - \$25

Early Bird Saturday - \$55 (for 1st 75 registrations)

Saturday General Admission - \$65

**REGISTER TODAY**

*Cathey*  
cathey armillas  
marketer – speaker – author



## JANUARY

23

Director Calls with Trio @ 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

24

Website Wizardry Webinar@ 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

30

Navigating the Toastmasters Website Webinar - Monday, January 30, 7:00 pm – 8:00pm

## FEBRUARY

4

Rescheduled Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) - February 4, 2017 @ 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
WHERE: Al Kader Shrine Center, 25100 SW Parkway Ave, Wilsonville, OR 97070

7

“Hacking the DCP” – Central Division Officer Makeup Training - February 7, 2017  
@ 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM, University of Oregon Chiles Hall Room 127, 1585 E 13th Ave,  
Eugene, OR 97403

11

Alternate Club officer training - 455 Frankton Rd, Hood River, OR 97031  
@ 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

16

Willamette Division (E) Club Officer Make-Up Training. Multnomah County  
Building Boardroom #315, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR 97214  
@ 6:15 PM – 8:15 PM

23

Judges Training Thursday, February 23, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

27

Director Calls with Trio @ 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

28

High Desert Division Club Officers Training January 28, 2017 @ 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
La Pine Library, 16425 1st St, La Pine, OR 97739

# PERSPECTIVES

## Speaking from Your Natural Platform

by Shannon Milliman, ACB, CL



Have you heard good speeches that did not necessarily fit the rubric of the evaluation form? Now and then you come across a speaker or a speech that just doesn't fit the mold. That can mean the speech has more room for opportunity but sometimes the speaker has tapped into something that is not easy to grade—pure connection.

That energy is more impactful than all the tally marks on this side of the Willamette River.

With a new year and new goals in mind, experiment with developing a speech that speaks from your natural platform. Consider these platforms and find your best, most natural fit. Be the next speech that wows the audience with rolling waves.

**1. The Journalist** - bids his or her speech by asking questions. This person's natural curiosity is revealed in the way his/her speech is organized. The journalist speaker connects the dots for the audience, and the audience is electrified for his/her efforts.

**2. The Prophet** - in his/her speech they reveal the ugly, raw truth. They see and articulate hypocrisy. In their speech, they share stories that show the world around them is broken but they believe we have the power to fix it.

**3. The Poet** - these speakers describe the mundane, commonplace with imagery and invoke beauty through what others might miss. They connect their audience with a mutual appreciation for beauty.

**4. The Professor** - these speakers provide informational, fact-based presentations. They demonstrate they are well read and thirst for knowledge. They inspire an audience to hunger for knowledge.

**5. The Star** - They may have overcome great

odds, been dealt a tough hand but they overcame and share their story of overcoming great odds. Because they did it, audiences feel they can triumph over their own challenges, too.



Perhaps you identify with many of these platforms. Pick the one you most closely align with and write a speech with this mindset. I perform this exercise, I decide the story subject is my garden boxes in my backyard. They have so much potential but are highly neglected by my myriad

of excuses that I have sowed as to why these potatoes are not flourishing. As I begin to share this story my Poet instincts kick in and I find myself in wonder over the small potato eye from which the potato grows. This reminds me of my father teaching me how to cut and plant potatoes as a child and I continue my current journey with poetry in my mind. It is easier for me to write this way and to speak this way because it is more natural for me.

Conversely, when I write as the Professor I am belabored by the need to research and create facts. I find value in these but it is like writing with a dam in my way. And soon, I lose interest and stop signing up for speeches.

Experiment with your voice for 30 days and see what truths you find about yourself. Evaluate the impact on your audience.





# SUCCESSFUL CLUB

## Audacious Orators

by Phyllis Harmon, DTM & Ginger Killion, ACS, ALB

*This article is a collaboration between Phyllis Harmon and Ginger Killion. It begins with Phyllis' impressions and ends with Ginger*

*Killion's thoughts on the group and what they plan for the future.*

**Phyllis:** One of my favorite groups to visit is Audacious Orators, located at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCCF) in Wilsonville, Oregon. They meet in the medium security section of the facility, hidden away behind tall fences topped with razor wire and locked steel doors.

I recall the kickoff meeting back in 2013. I approached the prison with trepidation. This was my first time behind locked doors, and my radar was on high alert. There were several Toastmasters gathered in the reception area. Gabrielle Proust, Marilee Krebs, Ginger Killion, Allan Edinger, and Erik Bergman were among those waiting to empty their pockets and step through the metal detector.

The meeting room was on the far side of several locked doors, deep within the facility. My first impression was of three-stories-tall, painted cement block walls, florescent lighting glaring off the high-glossed linoleum floors, and watchful, armed corrections officers standing every so often down the mile-long hallway. Echoes – I remember the echoes of our footfalls ricocheting off the walls as we were escorted to

the meeting room.

I stepped into a too-small room jammed with women, all dressed in blue denim tops and jeans. The chatter of voices was deafening and the space overheated and stuffy. There was a sense of gaiety in the room, as if they hadn't seen each other in a long time. As a visitor, I was put at ease by the friendliness of the inmates and my fellow Toastmasters. As the meeting got underway, the dignitaries and visitors were introduced. I was invited to address the audience as the District's Lieutenant Governor of Marketing. (What I said is lost in the annals of time!)

The group name, leaders, and applications were voted in at the next meeting, and the group was on its way. Today, the group continues to meet in the same room, many of the same Toastmasters continue to volunteer. Ginger Killion joined the group and serves as treasurer, mentor, and coach. Gabrielle Proust, who along with Merilee Krebs, who were the original sponsors and mentors, are still visiting and helping out on a regular basis.

**Ginger:** Audacious Orators continues to be a high-energy, goals-oriented group. For the past three years, they have met or surpassed their goals. Their ongoing enthusiasm and the all-out effort to be distinguished keeps their membership above charter strength. They are a much focused group. When members are in that room, they feel like part of something real and very accepted.

In their most recent meeting, the Toastmaster of the Day, Carolyn Exum ACS, CLB, led the first meeting of the New Year on January 3, 2017 with the theme New Beginnings. Speakers were Haley Fox, Danielle Cox and a new member, Brooklyn Shepard, who gave her Ice Breaker



Speech. Linda Bond led a thought provoking round of Table Topics.

The leaders and committee members are starting off the new year with plans for many special meetings throughout the spring and summer. Plans are in motion for an early spring membership drive with a guest speaker.

Area 91 Director, Angela Kim ACS, ALB and her Assistant Director Volunteer, Ginger Killion ACS, ALB, announced progress on plans to host Area 91 groups on alternate Tuesdays throughout the spring. Coffee Creek Correctional Facility Life Skills Staff are guiding members on this project.



VP Relations Danielle Cox CC, CL is starting the newsletter again and has asked for members to contribute their personal stories. She is looking for articles on how Toastmasters opened your eyes to new possibilities. The members congratulated charter member, Carolyn Exum, ACS, CL, who recently earned her Advanced Communicator Silver Award.

Volunteers are the glue that holds the group together. An opportunity to make a difference in lives is what it is all about. Once or twice a month, volunteering for a Toastmaster group inside Coffee Creek Correctional Facility is an opportunity to use your Toastmaster skills in a way that contributes to all of society. The members of Audacious Orators, inside the walls at CCCF, appreciate the time volunteers take to be there for them. The reward is when you see the skills develop and the confidence grow. It is an eye opener to learn more about our correctional systems too.

Audacious Orators cannot meet without a Toastmaster from the community attending their meetings. If you are interested in expanding your Toastmasters experience and passing on the skills you've learned, Audacious Orators needs you! Contact Ginger Killion at [gingiki@aol.com](mailto:gingiki@aol.com) about current and future volunteer opportunities.

*Phyllis Harmon joined Toastmasters in 2008. She is a member of several clubs including an online club. She has served as a club and district officer, and is the 2015-16 Toastmaster of the Year recipient. She recently earned her third Distinguished Toastmasters award.*

*Ginger Killion joined Toastmasters in 1994. She is a member of three clubs, Daylighters, Audacious Orators, and Storymasters. She is currently serving as a club officer in Daylighters and Audacious Orators. Ginger is a past Division H director. She is the 2014-15 Area Director of the Year co-recipient.*

**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.**



# A TOASTMASTER'S PROMISE

As a member of Toastmasters International and my club, I promise

- To attend club meetings regularly
- To prepare all of my projects to the best of my ability, basing them on the Toastmasters education program
- To prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments
- To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations
- To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow
- To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so
- To treat my fellow club members and our guests with respect and courtesy
- To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters membership offers
- To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters education and recognition programs
- To act within Toastmasters' core values of integrity, respect, service and excellence during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities