

2021-22 D7 TOAST MASTERS



INTERNATIONAL SPEECH

JEFF SPITZER, EC2



SPEECH EVALUATION

LACHLAN CROTEAU, EH1

CHAM PIONS



The Last Laugh

Better Humor for Better Speaking

Wednesday
July 13, 2022
7:15-9:00 pm PDT

**JOIN US
ONLINE**

Feedbackers Toastmasters

feedbackers.toastmastersclubs.org

How do great speakers connect, engage, and entertain their audiences?

How can we infuse humor into our deliveries?

Is it too late to learn to be funny?

Can humor be engineered?

Can it be dissected?

Join us—let's find out together!

Click Here to Register

Beyond the Classroom...

Phyllis Harmon, DTM, PDG - Publisher/Editor



The end of the Toastmasters year is upon us . . . again. What have you learned, taught, or shared this past year? Have you been a voice in your community?

I think there comes a time when the student must step outside the classroom and put to use all they have learned. We live in tumultuous times and our voices are sorely needed. It doesn't matter the cause you are passionate about, you can make a difference in its outcome. We may have differing social mores and values, but our common Toastmasters training affords us to be more than who we are today.

Pathways prepares us with opportunities to facilitate discussions or create blogs as well as many other projects that can help hone our skills. There are free platforms where we can develop our brands, share our thoughts, and develop virtual communities. All it takes is the courage to do so. Consider responding respectfully to blogs with alternate points of view. The discussion might be invigorating and give you an opportunity to add depth and width to someone else's point of view (or your own). You might also discover that you are not alone—others may be fellow travelers on your road to enlightenment.

I am often reminded that Ralph Smedley, the founder of Toastmasters, started the organization to help young men develop communication skills to become leaders in business, community, and politics. How can we do any less than employ the skills we have learned to do the same?

There is no time like the present to step out of the classroom. Take what you have learned and use it to support your cause and community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phyllis".

EDITORIAL

Volume 8 Issue 12 June 2022
Publisher
Phyllis Harmon, DTM

Senior Editor
Phyllis Harmon, DTM

Associate Editor
Leanna Lindquist, DTM

Monthly Columnists
David Freedman, IP3
Eldred Brown, DTM
Harvey Schowe, DTM
Jennifer Schmidt, EH2
Jim Robison, DTM
Lee Coyne, ATMS
Lorri Andersen, DTM
Paul Fanning, DTM
PJ Kleffner, DTM

2021-22 Officers
District Director
Eldred Brown, DTM
Program Quality Director
Lorri Andersen, DTM
Club Growth Director
Jim Robison, DTM
Finance Manager
Jamie Gould, CC

Administrative Manager
Graham Smith, PM2
Public Relations Manager
Stephana Johnson, DL3

Voices! is published monthly by District 7
Toastmasters. First issue published August
2014. Submit articles or contact us at
voices@d7toastmasters.org

VOICES!



COVER STORY

- 6 District 7 Toastmasters
Champions
Phyllis Harmon, DTM, PDG

EDITORIAL

- 3 Beyond the Classroom...
Phyllis Harmon, DTM, PDG

FIELD NOTES

- 13 Thank You!
Ellen Ino, DTM
- 25 Grading Graduations
B. Lee Coyne, ATMS
- 36 TLI - Celebrating Success
Robert Hall, DTM



COLUMNS

- 14 THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S STAND
Reflections on the Year That Was
Eldred Brown, DTM - District Director
- FROM THE DESK
16 Leadership Opportunity: Become an Area
Director
Lorri Andersen, DTM
Program Quality Director
- FROM THE DESK
18 Be Distinguished!
Jim Robison, DTM
Club Growth Director
- FROM THE WINGS
22 Are We There Yet?
PJ Kleffner, DTM
Immediate Past District Director
- GLEANINGS FROM THE GROVE
28 All Aboard at the D.E.P.O.T.
Paul Fanning, DTM
- JUST WRITE
31 Serial Killer 201: Boldness thru Brevity
Ken Coomes, DTM
- PLUGGED IN
32 Put Your Promotion into *Motion*
Jennifer Schmidt, EH2



2021-22 District
Champions



Jeff Spitzer, EC2 - International Speech Champion



Lachlan Croteau, EH1 - Speech Evaluation Champion



District 7 Toastmasters Champions

Phyllis Harmon, DTM, PDG

District Speech Champions, Jeff Spitzer, EC2 and Lachlan Croteau, EH1, answer questions about themselves, contests, and life.

Who is Jeff Spitzer?

Life for me began in the back of my grandfather's Studebaker. . . allegedly anyway. (Oh—you probably didn't want that much history!) There were hardly early signs that I would amount to much of anything (not that I have), having scraped by in school most of my youth and dropping out of community college at age 19 when my girlfriend became pregnant.

To support my young family, I took a job as a trash collector—yes, I was literally a garbage man. And yes, it is fun to drive a garbage truck.

Fast forward 7 years, with two kids and in the middle of the divorce process, I moved to Portland, Oregon from my hometown of Stockton, California with my kids and soon-to-be ex-wife in tow.

There I was in 1997, age 26 and a divorced college dropout! I moved my kids 600 miles from their next closest relative to a new city where we knew nobody except my ex-wife, er, wife.

After about 6 months of picking up trash in Oregon, I started to ask myself what the heck I

was doing. . . and set on a path to brighten our future by going back to school with a single purpose—to learn enough to get a job where I could take a shower before work, instead of after.

By July of 1999, I had achieved just that by landing a job as a programmer with a local market research company. I've worked in market research ever since, though I now work with clients and haven't programmed in nearly 20 years.

What does the title of District 7 International Speech champion mean to you?

It's really kind of nuts. I don't consider myself the best public speaker in my own house, let alone my Club or the entire District!

I entered the International Speech competition this year because I felt that I had a good message to share. I was just hoping to make it as far as I could to spread the message as widely as possible. Honestly, at the time, I was thrilled just to advance past the Club level and never thought I'd go as far as I did.

To this point, I've performed the same

speech at each round, though it is practically unrecognizable from the initial version that clocked in at well over 12 minutes!

I've really enjoyed the iterative process of improving both the speech and my delivery as I've gained more feedback, practice, and confidence. I've learned so much through this process, and it has positively impacted other areas of my life. Even when speaking outside of Toastmasters, I'm very conscious of my word choices, volume, delivery, and message. This whole experience has been incredibly beneficial.

It's an incredible honor to be the District champion. Just as my speech has improved at every step, I believe I have too. I've experienced tremendous growth through this process and appreciate every bit of the journey.

When did you join Toastmasters and what prompted you to do so? How long have you been a member?

I've worked from home since long before it was

cool... having done so since 2006. I was growing tired of the isolation. So honestly, when my wife and I joined Toastmasters, my main motivation was to get out of the house more. It turned into a nice pseudo-date night as we would usually hit our favorite Pho restaurant after the meetings. We joined in December 2019... So that whole date night thing lasted about 3 months.

Our home Club is Tell Me a Story. We meet Tuesday nights at 7PM via Zoom. While I've adapted to the virtual format and have obviously gained a lot from it, I would love to go back to in-person meetings at some point. Otherwise, I'll be forced to take my wife out on real dates and those are expensive!

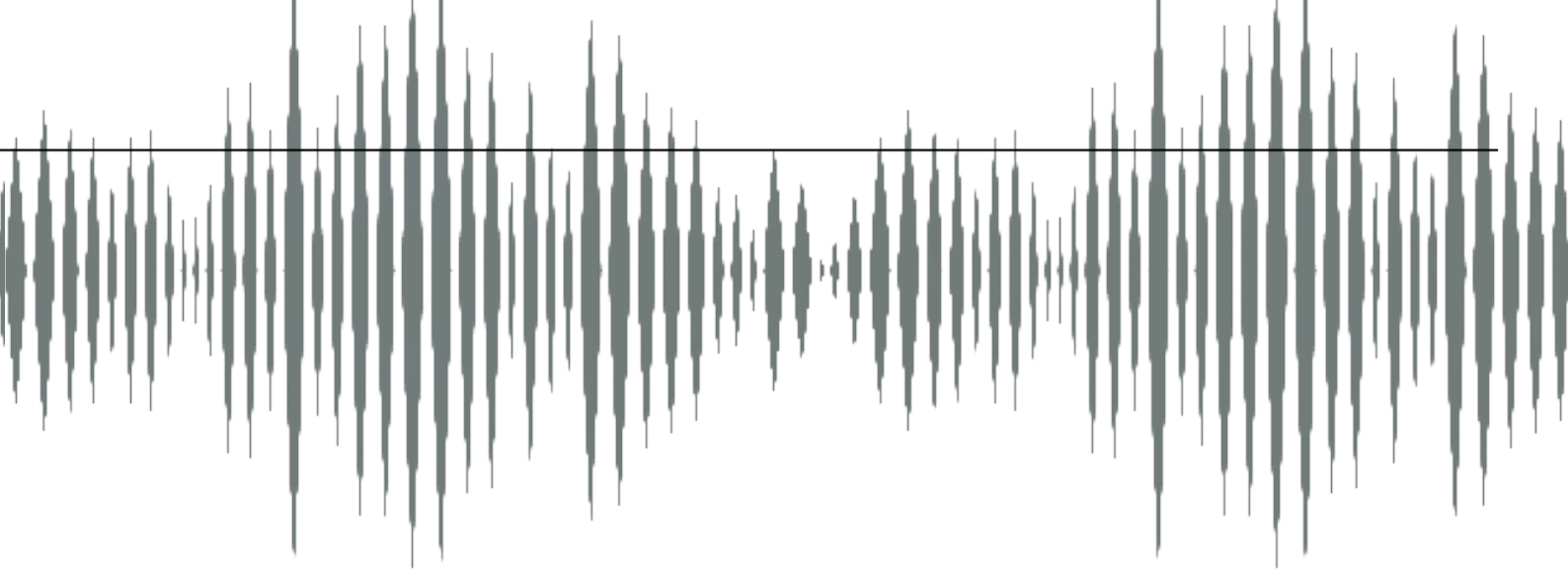
Your speech topic—what prompted you to choose

the one you did?

Leading up to Christmas last year, one of my relatives started an email argument about the hosts requesting that guests be vaccinated or take a COVID test. It didn't take long to devolve into a virtual boxing match and turn political. It



Liz & Jeff Spitzer - 2022



was like a Twitter argument among my relatives. That was the catalyst for me to stop putting off writing this speech any longer.

Over the last several years, I'd become increasingly frustrated and disheartened with the growing political divide in our country. The chaos of 2020 pushed me off the sidelines and into action when I found the organization Braver Angels.

I've long felt that the root of most of our discord is caused by us Americans silo-ing ourselves and not getting to know anyone different than us. We then start to demonize each other and dig further into our trenches; all the while pointing the finger at the "enemy" and believing our way is the only and "right" way.

Braver Angels work is rooted in bringing liberals and conservatives together to better understand each other. They do that in a variety of ways, from one-to-one conversations, to debates, to workshops, and to social gatherings.

A funny thing happens when we talk to each other: We realize that, despite what we may have been led to believe by social or traditional media, we have more in common than not.

It's incredibly rewarding work and those who attend our events leave expressing hope for the future and even make new friends with someone on the other side of the aisle.

Maybe the best part—the instigator in my family email spat was my brother. I can say that

because he loves it that the can of worms he opened became part of the inspiration for my speech. In fact, I performed my speech for the Division contest from his house, with him rooting me on in the other room. He also attended the District contest, leading my virtual cheering section.

In preparing for the District contest, did you have a special routine you followed, certain lucky socks you wore, or something like that?

I'd love to tell you that I have some secret routine or special lucky charm that gives me superpowers or at least confidence. None of that. My answer to this question is pretty boring. . . All I did. . . was practice. Practice—practice—practice!.

I'd give the speech to myself in the mirror. I'd record myself on Zoom and watch to see what I could improve. Before I had the speech memorized, I recorded an audio version that I would listen to while walking my dogs or driving.

The other thing I did was perform the speech multiple times in my home Club and for other Clubs. I visited at least half a dozen Clubs in the District who allowed me to guest speak and give me invaluable feedback. I'd take that feedback and practice some more.

Like most things in life, there is no magic pill or lucky charm. . . sometimes it just takes old fashioned hard work.

Your audio was really clean and crisp. What information can you share about preparing to speak virtually?

Ha! Great question! I really never thought much about my audio, even at the Club, Area and Division contests.

Then while doing the tech check for the District contest, Ellen Ino told me that I had a bit of an echo that needed to be addressed. That freaked me out!

I tried different cameras (with microphones), it was worse. So then I bought a fancy desktop microphone (under \$100), but that didn't sound good either. I bought a lapel microphone, it made some weird ticking noise. This was all within a couple days of the contest mind you!

Ultimately, I decided that the microphone I had in my original webcam was the best option, and I just had to try harder to soundproof my office. I was going to buy a bunch of foam acoustic panels and turn my office into a padded cell, but the math on that got expensive.

Ultimately, I covered every hard surface in my office with blankets and sheets. . . not just the desks, but I pinned them to the walls and the ceiling.

Except for the wall behind me, pretty much everything was covered. I was actually nervous that the blanket pinned to the ceiling right above my head would come loose and fall in the middle of my speech.

I'm certainly not suggesting that anyone need to go through that much trouble, but definitely pay attention to your audio and do what you can to improve the sound quality.

Back to the biographical info—married? Kids? What do you do outside of Toastmasters that makes you feel complete?

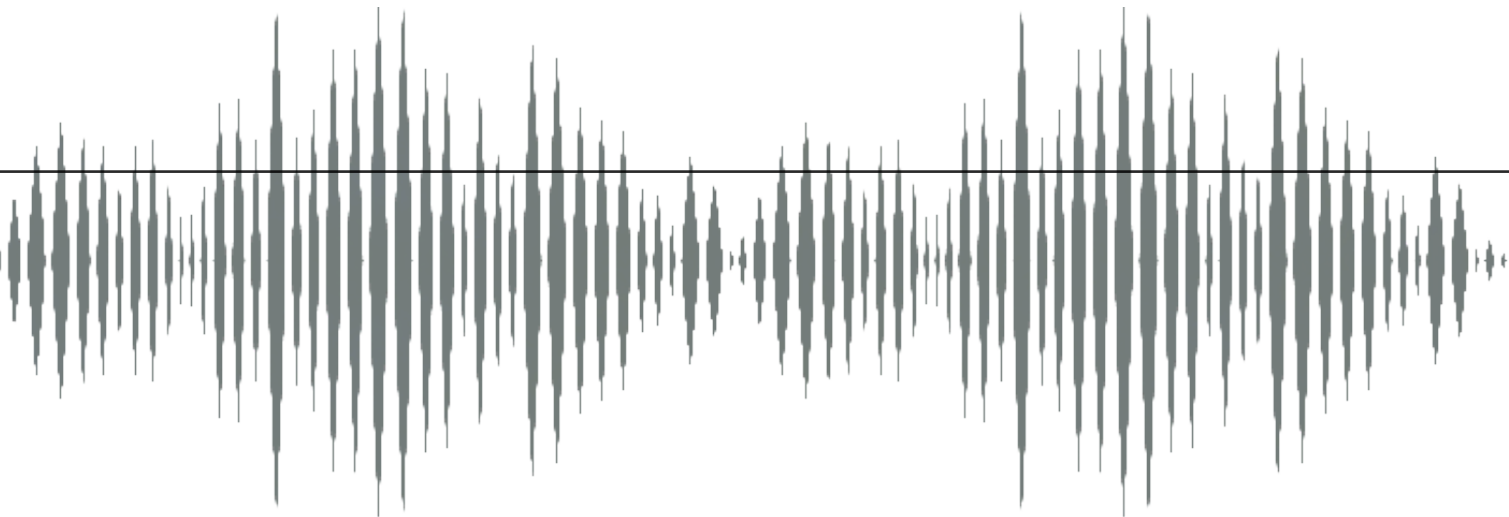
My (fellow Toastmaster) wife and I will celebrate our 10th wedding anniversary in August. I actually convinced her to take our anniversary trip to Nashville if I make it to semi-finals. . . though with airline prices right now, I may have to remain virtual!

We are a blended family, both having kids from previous marriages. In total we have five "kids," ranging in age from 19 to 31. Only the youngest is still at home, but she's getting the boot soon (kidding. . . sorta)!

I've worked in market research for 23 years, but have always done something on the side. Once, when someone asked me what I do for a living, I said "By day I work in market research and by night. . ." He interrupted me and asked "What are you, a superhero???"

Of course I thought that was a perfect way to describe myself, and that's exactly what you will see in my LinkedIn bio—should you be curious.

Market research pays the bills, but my side business as a Health Coach is what really fuels me. That and my volunteer work with Braver Angels.



Between helping people lose weight and achieve other health goals and saving our country from the political polarization ripping it apart, I like to think I'm living up to my billing.

Would you please share a final thought with our audience?

Whether you want to be the World Champion of Public Speaking or just want to give a speech for fun. . . my challenge to you is: just do it. Don't get bogged down with how far you think you will go or who is better than you. . . just do it. You will learn so much about yourself. . . even in just your Club contest. Besides, you aren't going to let me win District two years in a row are you??

Who is Lachlan Croteau?

I grew up in New Hampshire, went to college in Vermont, and then moved to Massachusetts for over 10 years. I moved to Portland about 4.5 years ago, and haven't looked back since. I drove across the country with my two cats. As soon as I got into Portland, I knew this would be my home. Don't get me wrong, I love New England however I do not miss the cold, or the snow, or the humidity, or the angry strangers.

When did you join Toastmasters, and what prompted you to do so? How long have you been a member?

I joined Toastmasters not long after I moved here in March 2018. I had thought about joining for several years but it took moving across the country to finally pull the trigger. I was looking for a community where I could grow and also really get to know people, and Babble-on Toastmasters was exactly what I needed. Everyone was warm and friendly and meetings were fun. It took me a month from when I joined before I felt comfortable enough to do my first Table Topics question. Now I not only love Table Topics but I love helping members discover places to grow by always having a challenge when it's my turn to be Table Topics Master.



Lachlan Croteau, PJ Kleffner, & Bob Leach - 2019

How do you evaluate a speech? Do you have a method or process you follow?

Learning to give good evaluations in Toastmasters has been the most helpful outside of the Club. As an employer, being able to give my employees good, positive feedback that they can take in and use has been invaluable. I was given some advice about providing evaluations and feedback early on in my Toastmasters membership that really stuck with me. It has stuck with me so much that I have it tattooed on my arm. It's the saying: "Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it kind?" If you can't answer Yes to all three of those phrases then whatever you are going to say is your own agenda and not actually about helping the other person.

I treat every evaluation as a way to not only help someone improve but encourage them to keep going. It's why I don't believe in brutal honesty for feedback. It might really get your point across but it can also stop people in their tracks about moving forward. Also a little humor can go a long way.

This was not your first competition. What prompts you to compete?

After competing in my first evaluation contest two years ago and making it to District where I didn't place in the top three, it became a goal of mine to win the competition. Setting goals really helped spur my desire to get good at

evaluations. The second time I competed, I made it the District again and then was disqualified for going over time. Ughh, I had focused so much on the content of giving evaluations and not so much on making sure I stayed in time. Well, the third time was the charm after a year of focusing on both content and time. It felt really amazing to accomplish a goal that I had been working towards for over two years. My next goal is to focus on the International Speech contest.

Back to the biographical info—married? Kids? What do you do outside of Toastmasters that makes you feel complete?

I'm a proud cat dad to three cats. They keep me on my toes, give me warmth, love and affection. Of course that is all on their terms. I love board games and host monthly game nights. I am also on the hunt for new fun games.

Would you please share a final thought with our audience?

If you are feeling complacent giving speeches and evaluations in Club meetings, then I recommend trying either the speech or evaluation contest. It helped me keep Toastmasters fresh and pushing my comfort zone. Set some goals, find a mentor, you can do it.

Thank you to the 2022 District 7 TLI Zoom Masters!

Ayu Anantya
Bob Hall
David Shehorn
Janet Cerasin
Chuck Melikian
Crystal Clark
Elizabeth Sptizer
Jeff Spitzer
PJ Kleffner
Greg Hawkins
Jim Robison
Laurie Canney
Leanna Lindquist
Liz Harris
Tamsen Corbin
Eldred Brown
Dave Bones

8 Zoom Masters Team Members have served the District effectively and (most of the time) quietly in the background of Learning Labs, Pathways Learning Labs, Tech Tuesdays, December 2021 TLI, District Executive Committee Meetings, some Area Contests, all of the Division Contests, Annual Conference and June 2022 TLI. It has been and always will be an honor and a privilege to serve with them.

*Ellen Ino, D7 Zoom Masters Team Leader,
zoom@d7toastmasters.org*

Reflections on the



Eldred Brown, DTM -

With the Toastmasters year ending soon, I suppose this will be my last article for my monthly *Voices!* column "From the Director's Stand." Like PJ before me, I may continue contributing to *Voices!*, but it's time to let Lorri have her year in the sun.

What was it like to be your District Director and to be in the Trio for three years? What did I learn? I've already shared both at the Business Meeting and at TLI (in a speech Lorri read on my behalf) my report on what we achieved as a District this year, so I'll use this article for more

of a personal reflection on my experiences in the Trio.

The quality I think I developed most in the Trio was my confidence as an executive. I still remember all too well how overwhelmed I felt through my first six months. That was a rough time for our District and a rough time for me personally as I had lost my professional job in September. My service as Club Growth Director added to my stress by challenging me to develop Club building and time management skills I had never developed before. With the help of

our District Director and our Region Advisor, I got my feet under me and felt like I finally knew what I was doing. Then COVID hit and threw everything topsy turvy.

COVID taught me resilience. The whole Toastmasters world was forced to deal with novel circumstances. I don't think anybody had a ready solution. We all had to experiment,

LESSONS
LEARNED



The Year That Was

District 7 Director

see what worked and what didn't, and bounce back repeatedly from our failures. We also had to adapt rapidly to a changing landscape of restrictive state mandates and CDC guidelines. The transition to online meetings caused a lot of people to burn out and leave Toastmasters with the idea that they would come back once we were meeting in person again. Yet it appears that we may never return to what we called normal before COVID. We've made a lot of changes to continue serving and leading our District online, and we're still adapting. Like the title of my Babble-On Club's winning speech, we continue to adapt because that's what resilient leaders do.

Another skill I honed as a Trio executive, particularly as your District Director, is the ability to envision a desired future and pursue it. I envisioned our District recovering from the pandemic and growing. I envisioned us building new Clubs and helping existing Clubs rebuild their memberships. I envisioned many of those members who left returning to Toastmasters. Lorri, Jim, and I wanted District 7 to be Distinguished this year. Did any of this happen? No. We continued to lose members and Clubs. We're left to take pride that we finished at the top of our Region 1 for smallest percentages of Clubs

and members lost. I like to think, though, that our Trio's consistent pursuit of our shared vision for regrowth successfully slowed the bleeding. Who knows how much worse our situation could have been if we hadn't pursued that vision?

Now that I approach the end of my year as your District 7 Director, I look back fondly on the year I had. I couldn't have had better Trio colleagues to work with than Lorri and Jim—don't forget our PR Manager, Stephana Johnson, and the excellent job she did after joining our team in October. We didn't always agree on tactics, but we shared a common vision of what we wanted to accomplish. This made our weekly meetings enjoyable and even fun. Everyone understood well their duties and how they fit our mission. We enjoyed working together, and we accomplished a lot together. When July 1 rolls around, I will enjoy the rest that comes with being relieved of my duties but I will miss working so closely with Lorri, Jim, and Stephana. I wish them only the best of good fortune in their continued work to lead our District.

Thank you all for your trust in my abilities to lead District 7 Toastmasters for a year. I appreciated the challenge.



LEADERSHIP OPP BECOME AN AREA

Lorri Andersen
Program Quality I

Are you ready to take the next step in your leadership journey but you aren't sure how to go about it? Here is an opportunity for you! District 7 is currently accepting applications for Club members to step into leadership training and development.

You can get started on your journey by becoming an Area Director. Being an Area Director will help you gain skills in communication, leadership, management, and project management. Additionally, you will gain more self-confidence and experience personal growth.

Toastmasters is the best place to learn these skills. We offer a safe place for learning and developing new skills. I have seen many people advance in their work place and career by becoming involved in the Toastmasters program.

As an Area Director, you are the information conduit between Clubs and Division and District leadership. Don't think of yourself as a supervisor of a Club but rather as a Club resource. As an Area Director you can help clubs and members learn and grow.

I found becoming an Area Director a rewarding and fun opportunity. By helping members and Clubs, I learned so much myself. It didn't cost any more than my normal Club dues, and I gained so much more. When I was first asked, I said "No, I don't know how." My District Director said "Of course you don't know how; you haven't learned yet!"

That is the difference between Toastmasters and other organizations. At work and other places, you must know how to do things before you are asked to take a new role. In Toastmasters, you get the opportunity to learn first and experience on-the-job training. We belong to such a great organization.

Serving as an Area Director is an exciting experience where you will

- Learn new skills
- Grow and build leadership skills
- Network
- Add to your resume'
- Meet new people
- Inspire Club leaders and members
- Work with teams
- Challenge yourself

OPPORTUNITY: A DIRECTOR

, DTM
Director

Did you know

- That you can be an Area Director in an area other than the one your Club is in
- That serving as an Area Director fulfills the District Officer requirement for the DTM Award
- That it is a great way to get more out of your Toastmasters membership
- That the term of office is July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023
- That training is offered, and you will be supported by your Division Director

I invite you to hear more, and I look forward to us being on the same team. Contact me at:

Lorri Andersen, DTM

District Director Elect, 2022-2023

lorriandersen@gmail.com



New Horizons Toastmasters #1360
Come for the FUN, Stay for the GROWTH!

Are you ready to Bloom?

Saturdays 8-9:30am (UTC-7 PDT)



Join a group where your public speaking and leadership skills can blossom!

Zoom Link [Meeting ID: 894 0261 6761](#) Passcode: 1360
In-Person at Marquis in Tualatin, Oregon

[Contact & Club #1360 Info](#)

Leadership and
learning are
indispensable to
each other.

—John F. Kennedy

Be Distinguished!

Jim Robison, DTM - Club Growth Director

What does it mean for a Toastmasters Club to be a Distinguished Club? The basic criteria include

- Dues and officer lists submitted on time
- Officers trained
- Educational goals met
- New members added

Beyond the basics, what follows are the less measurable (but just as important) qualities of a Distinguished Club).

1) Officers understand and meet their responsibilities

Club officers attend TLI (Toastmasters Leadership Institute) because they recognize it as their duty to understand and fulfill the tasks of their office. Lists and dues are properly submitted to Toastmasters International because the Club officers have taken the time to establish their Club calendar, with appropriate deadlines, to ensure Club business is properly tracked and completed. When officers fulfill their responsibilities, the Club earns two of the ten Distinguished Club Program goals.

2) A Distinguished Club is helping members learn

Members join Toastmasters for a variety of individual reasons, but in most cases the reason is centered on a desire to improve communication and presentation skills. Pathways, the Toastmasters educational program, is designed to help members learn these skills. When members make full use of the program to learn, to practice, and to



improve, the Club as a whole will complete the six educational goals.

3) A Distinguished Club is inviting, welcoming and fun

Potential visitors looking for a Toastmasters Club to visit will find the Distinguished Club easy to locate and visit. There won't be barriers blocking a visitor's ability to join the meeting. Visitors will feel welcomed by the members, invited to participate in some manner, and they will feel as if they would have been missed if they were not there. When a Club attracts visitors and makes visitors feel like they belong, the Club will complete the membership goals of the Distinguished Club Program.



I have visited many Clubs, and these elements are common among those that become Distinguished. They are doing their best to fulfill the Toastmasters Club Mission Statement:

“We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.”

If your Club achieves Distinguished Club status, you should feel good knowing that your Club is serving its members well. If not, consider these three elements:

- Do the officers understand and meet their responsibilities?
- Are members making use of the Toastmasters Educational Program to advance their skills?
- Are visitors invited, welcomed and included in a fun experience?

If you didn't answer YES to these elements, now is the time to open your Club Success Plan and start planning to end next year as a Distinguished Club.

District 7 2021

<p>Program Quality Incentives</p> <p>Lorri Andersen: pqd@d7toastmasters.org</p>	<p>Club Growth Director Incentives</p> <p>Jim Robison: cgd@d7toastmasters.org</p>
<p>Member Incentive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Toastmasters Member that completes the Pathways Mentor Program will win a Toastmasters Core Jacket (Item 7078 or Item 7079). 	<p>For Clubs with a Base Membership below 20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Club with a base membership below 20 will win a \$15 gift certificate to the TI store for each dues paid membership at the end of June 2022 above the Club's Base, up to 20 members.
<p>Club Incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguished or better by June 30, 2022 Clubs that become Distinguished or better by June 30, 2022, (and did not qualify on April 1) will win a \$25 Toastmaster International gift certificate for their Club. 	<p>Club Special Events: All Clubs who. . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule a Special Event (open house, workshop, etc.) to be held during the current Toastmasters year and have it announced on the District 7 Event Calendar at least 1 month in advance. • District 7 will provide the Club a \$50 Boost of an online ad for the Special Event. • Limited to 1 qualifying Club special event per calendar quarter. <p>New Member Surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A New Member Survey will be sent to every new member. • Every member who completes the New Member Survey is entered into a monthly drawing for a random prize (various promotional items from TI). The Survey asks new members a little more in depth about what brought them to Toastmasters, how they found the Club, and what they hope to accomplish.

1-22 Incentives

Club Growth Director Incentives

Jim Robison: cgd@d7toastmasters.org

Guest Surveys

- We provide a Guest Survey link to all Clubs and ask them to provide the survey link to all guests who are not current Toastmasters.
- The Guest Survey will ask questions about how they learned about Toastmasters, how they found the Club they visited, what was their guest experience, did they decide to join, why or why not?
- Every guest who completes the survey earns an entry into a monthly drawing for a \$20 TI Gift Certificate (repays their new member fee).
- For the Club visited, the Club will get a drawing entry to win an end of year grand prize: A customized sidewalk sign or other option of similar value.

New Club Leads

- District 7 will award a \$100 gift certificate from Toastmasters International to any member who submits a new Club lead that results in a chartered Club by June 30, 2022.
- All leads* will be entered into a final drawing. Three winners will be awarded a \$25 gift card from Toastmasters International.

**To qualify, a lead must include a specific contact person who is interested in building a new Toastmasters Club.*

New Clubs

- New Clubs chartered by June 30, 2022, will receive their choice from a selection of Club materials up to a value of \$200.

Examples of items to choose from

1. Custom Club Banner
2. Portable Lectern
3. Timing Light
4. Lectern Banner
5. The Writings of Dr. Smedley
6. HD USB Webcam & Microphone

BRITISH AIRWAYS



Business travelers love to swap horror stories about trips gone bad. In some circles, it's almost a competitive sport: "Oh that's nothing. Wait until you hear about my trip to. . ." For my closing article of the 2021-2022 Toastmasters year, I thought I would share such a story.

I planned to spend two weeks in South Africa, one week in Israel, then one week of vacation in the lake country of northern Italy. Normally, I flew on United and Lufthansa when going to Israel and South Africa, but a co-worker convinced me to try British Airways. He insisted that they are the best airline in the world. I regretted taking his advice almost immediately.

Trips to Johannesburg from Portland usually took about 30 hours, with connections through Chicago, and then London or Frankfurt.

This time, my trip started with an uneventful, afternoon flight to Seattle where I was to board a British Airways 747. We were supposed to make a short stop in Vancouver, BC, then over the pole to London, and on to Johannesburg. Sounds easy, except it went

downhill in Seattle and never came back up!

The airline's computer was down, so they used paper charts with peel-off labels to manually assign seats. We were a couple of hours late departing from Seattle by the time they boarded the hundreds of people. We landed in Vancouver to pick up more passengers, but the crew discovered a problem with the plane. This flight was supposed to depart in the early evening, so dinner was scheduled for right after take-off. We were already hours late, and everyone started complaining about the further delays. The crew patiently explained that they couldn't break out the food cart. . . or even beverages . . . because we should be ready to go at any minute.

At 2:00 AM, the pilot finally gave us the good news that the plane was repaired, BUT, they must cancel the flight. The crew had already been awake too long, so they could not legally fly to London. Do you know how long it takes to fill out vouchers for meals, taxis and hotels for the hundreds of people on a 747? Oh, by the way, the Vancouver airport was

Are We There Yet?

PJ Kleffner, DTM -
Immediate Past District Director

already closed for the night, so we had to sit on the plane while they recalled the customs and immigration officers because most of us on the plane were not Canadian citizens. I arrived at my designated hotel at 5:00 AM.

This hotel was of the Motel 6 variety, so there was no restaurant. They had vending machines, but I had no Canadian money, and the night clerk said he had no change. I went to bed tired, hungry and very unhappy with British Airways.

The airline told us to call the airport about noon to check the status of a make-up flight. Calling at the appointed hour, I was told we would leave at 3:00 PM. I found a place for lunch then headed to the airport. After check in, we waited and waited at the gate, but no one came to begin the boarding process. When the gate agents finally arrived, they told us the delay was because this was an unscheduled flight and they didn't have any extra people to handle it. They also informed us that the jetway was broken, so the hundreds of passengers had to go outside, down the stairs, and back up the portable stair ramp

to the plane. This took much longer than the normal boarding process, but we finally left Vancouver.

We arrived too late for my connection in London. After more hotel and meal vouchers, I was finally on a plane to Johannesburg. We sat there for another hour before the crew told us there was a problem with the luggage. All 747s use a container system for luggage, and they somehow managed to get one



turned sideways on the conveyor belt, and it was now jammed in the doorway to the cargo compartment. After much pounding and prying, they got it loose, properly stowed and we were on our way.

Are you thinking that it has to get better now? Guess again. As I realized no more bags were coming off the luggage carousel in Johannesburg, and mine were nowhere to be seen, I started walking toward the customer service counter. A man with a clipboard met me about halfway there and said, “Mr. Kleffner?” Instinctively I knew it can’t be good if he already knows my name. Actually, there was some good news. They already knew that my bags were in Paris, where I obviously failed to claim them hours ago. My bags arrived the next day, and things looked up as I began a grueling schedule of delivering eight, full-day seminars in ten days.

However, this ill-fated trip continued in the same manner as it had begun. British Airways lost my bags again between Cape Town and Tel Aviv, and one piece of equipment was badly

damaged when it finally arrived the next day. It worked well enough that I got through my week of seminars in Israel, and then I went for a much-needed week of vacation in Italy.

It was very foggy the day I was supposed to fly out of Milan, so the plane couldn’t land at the international airport. The weather was better across town, so the plane was diverted to the smaller domestic airport. They put all of us, and our luggage, on a convoy of buses, which actually got lost on the way to the other airport. We finally departed many hours later, meaning that I missed my connection in London. More vouchers, missed connection in Chicago, and home at last. As expected by this point, my bags were missing and didn’t arrive for several more days.

If you are waiting for the happy ending, there wasn’t one. My very expensive camera decided to malfunction so most of the pictures I took in the beautiful Lake Como region of Italy didn’t turn out. In case you are wondering, I haven’t been on a British Airways plane since.

When we least expect it, life sets us a challenge to test our courage and willingness to change; at such a moment, there is no point in pretending that nothing has happened or in saying that we are not yet ready. The challenge will not wait. Life does not look back.

- Paulo Coelho

GRADING GRADUATIONS

B. Lee Coyne, ATMS

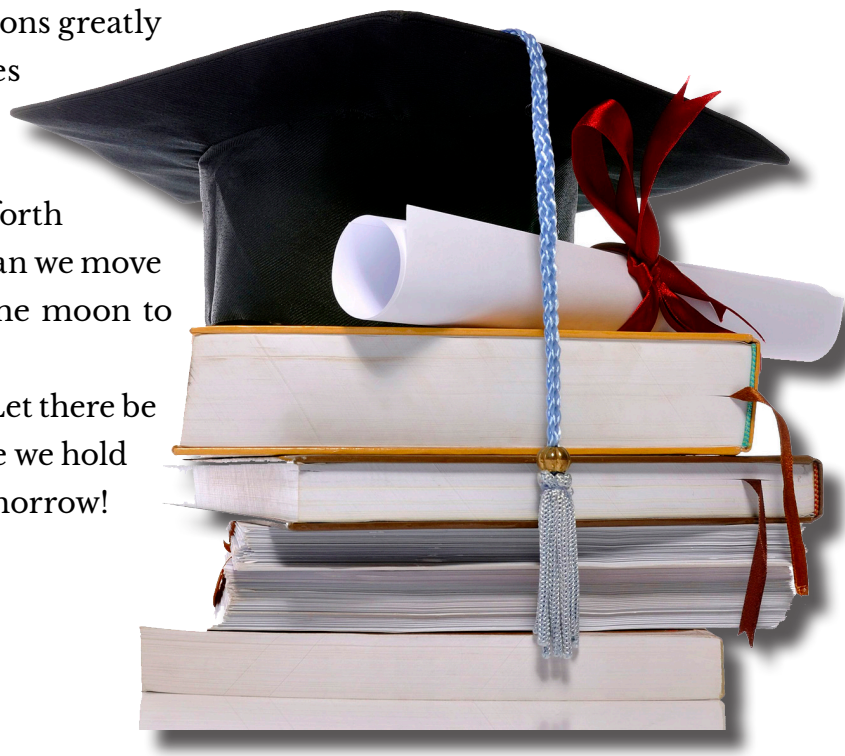
Every June is a special time of graduation. High schools and colleges are key recipients for this honor. Speeches are often considered a mainstay. This invites all of us to pretend we are graduation speakers. Just what elements shall we focus upon and what message shall we convey?

We hope to communicate a true message of hope to the next generation. Yet we confront a hectic world slowly coming out from a two-year pandemic. Covid-19 certainly was an abrupt interruption to one and all. It tested our capacities to yield our everyday routines and absorb new norms we never expected. Our mental muscles were supplied an unprecedented workout.

The political divide grew denser. Political leaders were less prone to negotiate over controversies. Our society at large fragmented. Crime skyrocketed. Illegal drug abuse situations greatly increased. Even suicides set new records.

As a graduation speaker, can you or I set forth a positive perspective? Can we move from the dark side of the moon to lunar luminescence?

As it says in Genesis: Let there be light. That is the message we hold for the grown ups of tomorrow!



**WALLMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL**
#4428 | TIGARD, OREGON



Supportive & Friendly

10 DTM Members

Distinguished Club for 20+ Years

All are Welcome

**Come visit a well-established, high-achieving
club committed to excellence & success.**

JOIN US ON [zoom](#)

Fridays | 6:35-7:45am PST

bit.ly/wallmasters



All Aboard at the D.E.P.O.T.

Paul C. Fanning, DTM

When I think of the word DEPOT, my mind immediately turns to my hometown of Dutch Flat. To enter the confines of the township, you had to drive down “Depot Hill” past the ruins of the old depot itself that had blown up around 1906 when a Southern Pacific engine’s boiler exploded—taking out the entire depot, the tracks, the Wells Fargo & Co’s Express office, and anyone standing near the explosion.

What is left of the depot today is a small stack of bricks, poking through the dirt, that formed one corner of the building. The depot was never rebuilt, the town withered and died, becoming a ghost town in the 1930’s.

While not an official stop anymore, trains would still drop off or pick up passengers on their way to Reno northbound or Sacramento southbound at the now vacant lot through the late 1940’s. The depot had been a busy place where gold bullion from the mines, merchandise from the east or San Francisco arrived daily, passengers, the “locals” sitting about and watching who was coming and going milled about. Yet the purpose of the depot ran smoothly—a group of

many moving parts and functions all working to make it a whole.

I dreaded this time of year in the Toastmasters world as a Club officer. I was caught once singing a parody of the song “It’s The Most Wonderful Time of the Year”—at least the tune to my new words of the most awful time. Why? Simply because we were changing officers, the new program year was beginning, and we were still seeking a member or two for our Distinguished Club status. All sound familiar? Of course, it does! That is why you and your Club need to take the right exit towards the D.E.P.O.T.

We, in Toastmasters, have two tools to measure the progress of our Club and to set goals and provide direction for the coming program year. Thus, you are perhaps asking yourself what does depot have to do with all of this? Toastmasters is always full of acronyms—DTMs, TLI, VPPR, and the list goes on.

I am proposing that you and your Club take on one more to help your Club be successful in the 2022-2023 program year. Yes, there will still be the Club Success Plan and the Distinguished



Club Plan, but you can roll all of this into one easy set of initials D.E.P.O.T. If you follow this helpful tool, your Club (the “train,”) will pull into the “depot” on June 30, 2023 on-time, a Distinguished Club, and be successful in membership growth, education awards, and program administration. Your Club-wide goals can be achieved as well as your members’ individual goals for the year. Your Club will be honored by Toastmasters as either a Distinguished, Select Distinguished or Presidents Distinguished Club. Check with your Area Director if you need more information on how to become a Distinguished Club.

What does D.E.P.O.T. stand for? The five initials represent the process of helping your Club discover, process, and achieve your Club’s goals using the dream, evaluate, plan, organize, and track method.

If you have not thus far worked on a Club Success Plan, it is a tool and workbook (found online) to help your Club over the next program year. The process can appear overwhelming, But as the pygmy told the explorer, “You can eat a whole elephant one bite at a time.”

D is for DREAM. Before you even open the booklet or workbook and begin filling out the 25 pages of questions, take a moment as the Club executive committee to dream. Without being numerically specific, what does your Club want to do this program year? Is there one event item you want to address this year? Do you need more time for speeches, or perhaps learn more about the art of evaluation? Do you want to conduct vibrant Club meetings with themes, or hold a bang-up and spot-on open house? Need leadership training? All of these items you can dream about and should be considered.

Now that your locomotive is chugging down the rails to the ultimate D.E.P.O.T., employ next your **E** for EVALUATE by looking at the past program year. What worked? What didn’t? Do you have enough Club members? Were your education goals met and achieved? Once you have taken inventory of your successes, not-so-wonderful misses, and areas you never got around to this past year, you can begin to outline possible goals for the upcoming year.

Too often a Club’s “engine” is “derailed” by

coming off the track because the third initial, **P** for PLAN, was not engaged. This stage of your journey by rail is now when you refill your coal box, fill the water tank, and begin the honest setting of your speed and progress. I once attended a not-for-profit board retreat that spent from 8:30 am until 5:30 pm setting the goals and objectives. This was the commitment required to be part of the board, and I believe out Toastmasters Clubs deserve and need the same time involvement. Be specific, assigning responsibility to individual officers, and be realistic in that which you set. Calendarize your efforts. One of the keys to success is letting your Club know what the plan is so that all can have ownership in it.

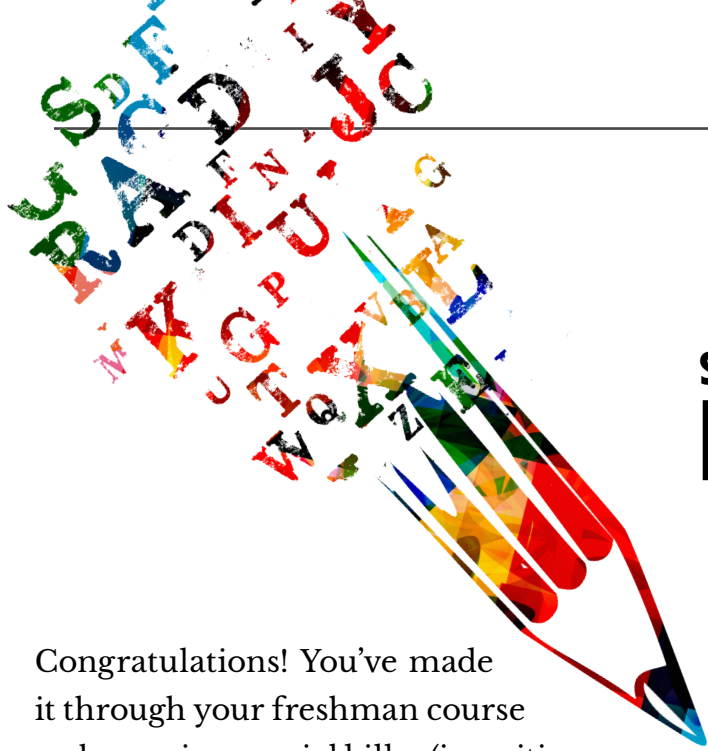
You now have a full head of steam and are clicking down the tracks to success. Begin now to employ our fourth letter **O** for ORGANIZE. Oh, my goodness! Dreaming is fine. Evaluating is crucial as is Planning, but unless one puts this all down on paper and figures out what actually is needed to achieve the goal, you might become a runaway locomotive-out of control without direction which may lead to missing your goals and objectives. It may be wonderful to say, “we are going to conduct an open house in 2023” and be sincere about that goal, but who, what, where, why, and how are the age-old questions one must ask. Again, be specific. Dates, to-do items, etc. can be changed later, but without the “mile markers” on your route to success, it may not be successful, achievable, or even realistic. Organize is a group effort, just as the engineer of the steam trains had a fireman and conductor to keep the train moving ahead and on schedule.

This now brings us to our last initial **T** for

TRACK. Of course, a train needs tracks to reach the goal of the station. Did you know there are no steering wheels on trains? Just a lever for forward and reverse—even on our wonderful, local commuter trains. But this track stands for keeping track of all the things you have done in the previous initials. Toastmasters International helps you track your progress towards Distinguished status through the ten goals outlined in the plan. You take that information, the goals you want to achieve, and again be specific. Who is going to be a Level One achiever? Complete a Level Five or DTM? Your VP Education or Base Camp Manager should be the one doing this. How about the membership goals? VP Membership would be your go-to for that. Club officer training? The Area Director can help you there with District support. You can make up your own charts. I went a little overboard and made my own education award chart for each member to track their progress—which helped when I needed roles for meetings, etc. The sky was the limit!

Now you have it. Your locomotive is slowing down as it enters the confines of the yard and the D.E.P.O.T. ahead. You have now DREAMed, EVALUATED, PLANned, ORGANIZED, and finally TRACKed your program year.

Fellow Toastmasters, I gift this to you to as yet another tool, another method for becoming the Club you want it to be, and your members to be successful in the Toastmasters journey. It would be wonderful to see more Clubs achieve Distinguished Club in the 2022-2023 program year. Just listen for the “All Aboard” at the **D.E.P.O.T.!** May your miles be safe and easy and your journey a success.



Serial Killer 201

Boldness thru Brevity

Ken Coomes, DTM

Congratulations! You've made it through your freshman course on becoming a serial killer (in writing, possibly in speaking) by learning three basic tips and three secrets. Now we're going to dive deeper, addressing some of the challenges of writing short serial pieces instead of novellas or book series.

I'm sure your life experiences, speeches and other writing have led you to realize that you should have something to say. One of the first surprises when I joined Toastmasters was learning to be a better listener. A lesson my wife appreciates.

Have you ever listened to a talented speaker, perhaps a "Don't Time Me," ramble on at length? Perhaps even when the speaker has a point to make, it might get lost in the thicket of words.

When you are writing serially, or giving a short speech, it's even more important to have something to say, and to say it, in a limited number of words.

That same challenge, boldness through brevity, makes it important for you to be specific. When you only have a few minutes to make your point, or for your serial followers to listen or read, ambiguity is not your friend.

Some of you are thinking about your next mystery piece. You're right, you don't want to give too much away when laying down your

clues. But each clue, even though subtle, should be specific.

Choose simple words. Avoid "writing down" to your reader, or "speaking down" to your audience. It's a good idea to emulate Ebenezer Scrooge (I mean "copy a miser") and use five-cent words instead of showing off your extensive vocabulary.

In a recent writing challenge, I was writing about donating blood. I wrote "The phlebotomist first pricked my finger to check my Hematocrit." That might be the right sentence if my audience is mostly medical technicians, nurses and doctors, even in serial writing. I chose, instead, to write "The volunteer pricked my finger to check the iron in my blood." In this example, I chose simple words over precision.

Finally, keep your sentences short. This is crucial in serial writing. Even in speaking, short sentences make it easier for your audience to follow along. And in all writing and speaking, this moves things along at a brisk pace.

Time for another challenge. Share with me, or someone in your Club, your own experience in redrafting a speech or a piece of writing, using one or more of these techniques. To share with me, send a note to lupusgnome@hotmail.com.

I have three more tips to offer, then we'll move on to serial fiction publishing options. I look forward to hearing from you. Just Write!

Put Your Promotion into

Jennifer Schmidt, EH2

“Songs of Summer” was my chosen theme as Toastmaster for a New Horizons meeting. To get people excited about summer by encouraging them to share their favorite songs was the goal. Promotion was key, and I’ve learned to not be shy when it comes to getting the word out.

Some might even say “Jennifer you did too much advertising.” My response, “Is it really possible to over promote music and sunshine?” In PR Masters, we frequently discuss different promotion techniques. Now that I have the chance to reflect on my “Songs of Summer” campaign, it’s a good time to evaluate how the strategies I used worked.

GOOD PREPARATION MAKES LESS PERSPIRATION

By promoting in May for our June 4th meeting, I gave myself time to create several promotional images in Canva©. This user-friendly design program has ready-made templates where I can essentially click and drag. Once I finished a promotion, I copied it and inserted new photos. A unique but unified look was created by keeping the formatting of the meeting information the same.

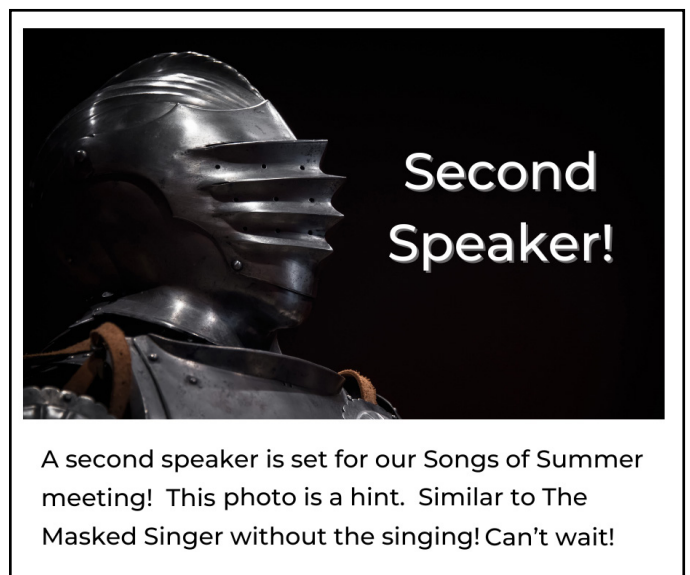
In total, I created five formal Facebook meeting posts. Along the way, I also created two posts for filling meeting roles, four “teaser” posts to announce who signed up for roles, and one reminder to bring sunglasses to the meeting. A total of twelve posts, which sounds like a lot, but was spread over two weeks. Besides, creating

them was FUN. Now that I have all these images pre-made, it will be even easier to create new posts in the future and do it faster.

LOTS OF ENGAGEMENT AND LAUGHTER

One-way communication is created by simply telling members that a meeting is coming up. For this meeting, I generated two-way communication. I asked questions in our Facebook group to encourage conversation. “*Guess my favorite summer tune!*” “*Give me a hint - What is your favorite tune?*” The resulting engagement was a flurry of chats with gifs flying back and forth adding another level of reaction!

Anticipation was further developed with the tease of a mystery speaker. A photo of a knight in armor was the hint. Other unusual images such as Yoda, a dancing video, and a close up of an excited



A second speaker is set for our Songs of Summer meeting! This photo is a hint. Similar to The Masked Singer without the singing! Can't wait!

o Motion



June 4, 2022
8 AM PDT (-7 UTC)

Join our zoom meeting!
Meeting ID: 894 0261 6761
Passcode: 1360

Come for the FUN, Stay for the Growth!

person drew attention to the posts. These posts were personalized. I tagged the members mentioned—the goal was to invoke laughter.

The tally of pre-meeting views, and comments revealed we had 258 views, a combination of 61 likes (thumbs up, hearts and laughing emojis) and comments. Engagement made a big difference in building up meeting anticipation and feeling good about the theme. Attendees were also encouraged to have a summer or music-related, themed background and, of course, to wear their sunglasses!

FOLLOWING UP WITH FUN FINESSE

You would think once the meeting ended that would be it, I would put my Canva brush away and walk off into the summer sunset. . . NOT SO FAST! I believe in the finesse of follow up. We took a group photo, then I wrote a meeting recap and posted it. Every member (even if they couldn't attend) was asked to share their favorite summer song and artist. I created a "virtual cassette tape" with this information once again, using a Canva image and Facebook post (see [example in the December 2021 issue of Voices!](#)). The post becomes a reference to look up the various songs on YouTube and enjoy our club's "Sounds of Summer" all over again.

This takeaway can be enjoyed by everyone and includes members who couldn't attend. It

makes one meeting theme stretch over 3+ weeks and beyond. This keeps the conversation going and grows connections between members. The post-meeting stats for two follow-up posts, one group picture, and one reminder for songs, were 45 views, and 52 likes and comments!

DOES PROMOTION NEED PERPETUAL MOTION?

YES! Honestly, this meeting did take extra planning and time, AND it was worth it to infuse a big dose of sunshine, camaraderie, and music into our Saturday morning. All the stats tell me people were happy to participate and it makes their Toastmasters experience even better. To avoid complacency, as members we all have a role to play in engaging each other and fostering connection by bringing new adventures to our clubs and roles. This is one way New Horizons continues to keep our members and draw in new ones. If you want to mix some sunshine and music into your Club, embrace a theme, promote, engage, and follow up. Also, don't forget your sunglasses, because the shine of all those smiles will make your meeting even brighter!

A Matter of Debate

David Freedman, PM2

Hey—do you want to hear a secret?

Here it is: I'm always right. No, really. And I've got the public speaking chops to prove it. I can create a great speech with the best of them that can sway listeners to my side without breaking a sweat. Of course, in order to get to this point, I had to pay my dues and hone my skills as a public speaker and debater in the first place. And debating is a skill which no one every truly learns enough about. Debates can be fun, challenging, hard, and even maddening, depending upon the subject matter you're discussing and whether or not you can come up with a convincing argument.

You want to know an even better secret?

If you want to be a successful debater, you need to be able to become the devil's advocate in order to empathize with your opponent. That means taking the time to research points of view you might otherwise find repugnant. You might even find some common ground that you didn't expect. But more often than not, you'll also walk away with a better understanding of someone else's point of view.

Now in truth, I'm not always right. And for most people, that's a huge relief. I'd be insufferable if that were the case. However, in a debate, you have to convince people about the truth of your message, and in order to do that, at least to a certain point, you have to throw caution to the

winds and cultivate a point of view that both you and your audience will find convincing. To do this takes a great deal of research on the subject as well as being able to put together sound points that will add emphasis to your pitch. In that sense, debating is as much of an art form as public speaking, with the additional challenges of actively listening to your opponent and discovering ways to rebut their argument in a (mostly) logical manner.

Sound easy yet?

When I first came up with the idea to form a debate club, several members of my home Club, Babble-On Toastmasters, had done a debate exercise in which there was a moderator and two speakers. The speakers debated a specific topic. After being introduced by the moderator, they would be asked to present their point of view in the first round. In the subsequent round, each person would ask the other questions to sound out their opponent. The last round would see each person present their final argument. There were no winners in this debate; the exercise was to see how well each person could perform in a debate when prepared with the appropriate subject matter.

I was intrigued by this and eventually decided to form a Club as part of my high-performance leadership project. Then the pandemic hit, and my hopes of finishing up my Distinguished



Toastmaster Award were dashed, but my team and I decided to keep the Club going. My own reasons for doing so were simple, I wanted to create a Club that would challenge its members to argue various points of view in a civil environment. I also knew that such a Club could be an empowering place for many people who needed to find their voice, and so creating a safe space for all members became paramount. Perhaps most importantly, it gives us a chance to vent our frustrations about how polarized our society has become and maybe even come up with some solutions that we can implement locally.

Finally, it must be said that even though we encourage people to be creative in creating topics of discussion for their debates and formulating arguments to counter their opponents' views, no person is ever completely right on any subject, myself included. The joy of debate is the opportunity to learn something that you

might never have suspected, even if the topic of the evening is something you're otherwise familiar with. Likewise, debating an unfamiliar topic brings its own rewards of discovery as you might be forced to unlearn certain preconceptions in order to put forth your best argument. And of course, debating isn't just about creating a convincing argument; it's all about active listening as well and learning what the other person has to say and how well they say it.

At the present time, our debate Club is still in the demo meeting phase, and we're always looking for more members. We are going by the temporary name Virtual Virtuosos. Our Club convenes completely online, and we meet on the fourth Friday of every month. The hope is that we'll charter sometime this next year. I encourage anyone who has a passion for debate to join us. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!



TLI - CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Robert Hall, DTM

Think of all those moments in your life where you were faced with a decision. The decision to take on new responsibilities, to step up to the next level, to step aside and mentor your replacement, to bear down, and grind it out, or to back off and relax more. What's the implication of all those decisions for you? Increased job satisfaction? Healthier relationships? Less stress? Satisfied customers? More time for friends and hobbies? Whatever your motivation, whatever phase, or trajectory you are on in life, whether you're sad or happy about it, it all boils down to a decision that happened in the twinkling of an eye, a moment that mattered.

The theme of the Spring TLI was Moments That Matter. We asked all our guests this year to reflect on how their Toastmasters experience made a difference in their lives. To think about the accumulation of all those moments where courage was called for and you answered. The result was so much better than expected. We were rewarded with an amazing response, based on the feedback we got from 66 survey

respondents.

Here are the statistics and highlights:

- Over 300 Toastmasters registered
- Average Score for speakers was 4.4 out of 5
- Comments were overwhelmingly positive
 - excellent (46) and good (9)
 - praise for organization (28)
 - appreciation for expertise and growth (42)
 - networking, connections, and engagement opportunities (48)
 - gratitude for recognition (17)

KEYNOTE—Past Regional Director Sondra Nunez's Keynote received high acclaim. Here are some typical comments:

Well done. Pat yourself on the back!! Loved the POSITIVE energy and the example she set for saying yes and figuring things out as she went. . . and how it helped her to GROW! Very inspiring.

It was interesting to hear her leadership journey. I really like the vision she mentioned: 'Every member deserves to belong to a



TOASTMA LEADER INSTITU

distinguished club.”

*Three cheers for
‘every member deserves
a distinguished
Toastmasters club.’*

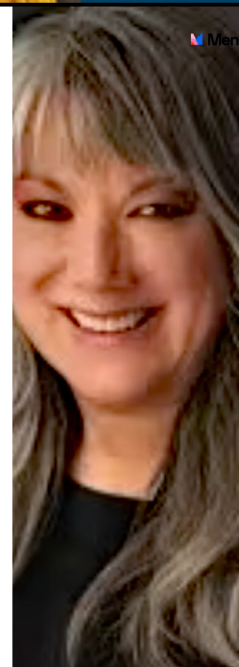
As reflected in other comments we received, her message that “every member deserves to be in a Distinguished Club” resonated.

We incorporated a new feature at this event, the “Mentimeter” ([mentimeter.com](https://www.mentimeter.com)) which allowed us to capture real time feedback from our guests and created a word cloud with their responses. Thoughtful, Inspiring, Grace, and Distinguished stood out as a common theme.

Thank you, Sondra!

ZOOM BOMB SQUAD—Our event was not without a few misadventures! We were afflicted by a hornet’s nest of Zoom bombers in the plenary session on Friday night. Our guests were left aghast for a few moments, as these unwelcome visitors made mischief and disrupted the decorum of the evening. We quickly identified them and booted them out of

Share your thoughts with Sondra!



the main room. Unfortunately, they regrouped and dispersed to several of the breakout rooms. A handful of rooms were disrupted by their rudeness, but only for a short while. They were eventually locked out.

The TLI team talked tactics after the Friday session and formed a “Zoom Bomb Squad” with superpowers to see through walls and readied themselves for another onslaught in the Saturday morning sessions. Perhaps the wretches learned their lessons or perhaps they caught wind of the counter offensive and turned tail! Whatever the case, they never showed their faces again.

What did we learn from this? We instituted a challenge in the waiting rooms for the various sessions—change your name to include your Club. We may also get more creative next time and include a challenge question only those who officially registered can answer. We will watch and we will wait and see!

IMPACT OF COVID—Meeting remotely via Zoom was one of the protocols we hoped would minimize the impact of Covid on our event. Unfortunately, Covid managed to reach its tentacles over the airwaves, as several of our presenters were stricken at the last minute. No worries though! Several champions stepped into the breach and saved the day.

HYBRID MEETINGS—We asked a question on the survey after the last TLI to gauge interest in new topics, and one that emerged near the top demonstrated an appetite to learn more about how a club can successfully run a hybrid meeting. We included a panel discussion in this TLI with representatives from Clubs who have had some degree of success with this format. The session was well attended and elicited excellent reviews. We included a question on the post-TLI survey about the format for the next TLI. The response strongly favored a hybrid format. There was a contingent who favored meeting in person, but the majority opinion favored either online or hybrid. We will take this feedback into consideration.

(If you are hearing about hybrid for the first time, here's a quick definition. It's a meeting that takes place both in person and online simultaneously. Some of the members join via Zoom and the others meet at a physical location and all partake of the dialog and discussion.)

RECOGNITION—The online format for TLI provides some unique opportunities to be creative. We introduced three new tools this time that received positive feedback.

The first was the Mentimeter ([mentimeter.com](https://www.mentimeter.com)).

This app allows a Zoom audience to enter several words or phrases they felt best described their experience listening to a speaker. The result is a word cloud. (See Sondra's on page 37).

Another innovation was the Picker Wheel (pickerwheel.com). This app allows the upload of a list of names to a website which puts the names on a wheel, spins the wheel with sound effects, and finally stops on a random name from the list. This tool came in handy to pick names for the early bird and grand prize drawing at the end of the program.

Finally, while not an innovation per se, our Program Quality Director revived Bingo and we made it accessible to the online world.

CONCLUSION—Let me conclude with these thoughts as we take the lessons learned from TLI forward into the future.

The Toastmasters Club is an extraordinary laboratory for exploring the transformational principles that emerge from moments that matter in our lives. Sharing those moments with others can put a twinkle in their eyes and you know what happens next! The light dawns in the mind of the beholder, they become infected, and Toastmasters becomes a contagion that can spread across generations, divides, oceans, and continents! Take a moment to reflect on how Toastmasters has transformed your life and consider sharing this experience with others this coming year. Let's make 2022-2023 a year to remember!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Name
Notary Masters	Ahuya Israel
Capital Toastmasters Club	Albert Wright
Totem Pole Club	Alexandra Nickoloff
Notary Masters	Andria Pate
Will-Sher Club	Angelique Bechtol
Clack-Orators Toastmasters	Angelique Nomie
Notary Masters	Anna Del Prado Penate
Portlandia Club	Anna Marum
Notary Masters	Bernice Williams
Waffle Toasters	Bhuva Subramanian
Toast to US	Brad Dorsey
Rose City Toasters Club	Brandon L. Hendrix
Silicon Forest Club	Brendan Foley
West Beaverton Club	Brett Lamb
Testmasters	Brian Letterman
Portlandia Club	Cody Sibley
Top DOTs	Connie Smith
Yaquina Toastmasters	Cynthia Resendiz
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Dave Johnson
Notary Masters	Dennis LaRue
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Dick Thomas
Rose City Toasters Club	Dylan G. Hogge
Hood River Club	Emily Reed
Rose City Toasters Club	Enoch D. Bar Tzadok
Sage Beaverton Toastmasters	Erin Moulesong
Pearl District Toastmasters Club	Francis Herrera
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Gary Pape'

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Name
Notary Masters	Gloria Barajas-Holt
Portland Progressives	Grant Schott
Notary Masters	India Scruggs
Storymasters Toastmasters	Indumini U. Jayasekara
Rose City Toasters Club	Jacob L. Singleton
Roseburg Club	Jake Long
West Beaverton Club	Jay Gali
Encouraging Words Club	Jeff Ramey, MS1
Waffle Toasters	Jenn Tran
Walker Talkers Toastmasters Club	Jennifer Van Horn
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Jeremiah Gildea
Rose City Toasters Club	Jesse J. King-Zimmerman
Sherwood Town Criers Club	Jesse Rorvig
Notary Masters	John Holder
Capital Toastmasters Club	Jose Sanchez
University of Oregon Club	Joseph Naughton
Capital Toastmasters Club	Joseph Williams
Notary Masters	Julie Rumbaut
Southern Oregon Speechmasters	Kimberley DeCoste
Waffle Toasters	Kiran Manda
Notary Masters	LaVern Bentz
Testmasters	Marianne Gaviola
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Mark Blythe
Notary Masters	Mark Fleming
Pearl District Toastmasters Club	Marlon Eliseo
Sporty Speakers	Mary Beth Carulli
Waffle Toasters	Mary Liu

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Name
Notary Masters	Mary Phibbs
Notary Masters	Melissa Dominguez
Clack-Orators Toastmasters	Michael Jung
Notary Masters	Mike Howard
Nano-Mated Speakers	Nicole Rochlin
New Beginnings Toastmasters	Noah Hyde
Notary Masters	Pam Adame
Notary Masters	Patricia Lankford
Early Words Club	Retha Porter
Siuslaw Tale Spinners Club	Robert Gray
Capital Toastmasters Club	Robert Kelley
Liberty Talkers	Rodilyn Baldridge
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Ron Petit
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Ronda Butler
Notary Masters	Rosa Hernandez
Essayons Club	Samuel Bettrello
Speakeasy Toastmasters	Sarita Regmi
Southern Oregon Speechmasters	Seth Marsh
Notary Masters	Sheila Houston
Mentors Of Focus Club	Shereen Elali
Notary Masters	Sheri Garland
Electric Toasters Club	Sommer Martin
Rose City Toasters Club	Stanley M. Leonard
Portland Rotary Toastmasters Club	Steven Hopkins
Notary Masters	Tabatha Bonetti-Asker
Southern Oregon Speechmasters	Thomas Detweiler
Storymasters Toastmasters	Thushara J. Athauda

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Name
Blue Ox Club	Tony Carlson
Capital Toastmasters Club	Trask Williams
Spirit Trackers	Tyler Raymond
Squawking Heads	Viviane Xiong
Capital Toastmasters Club	Yisra'el Corpuz
Waffle Toasters	Yusuf Qedan

Take advantage of every opportunity to practice your communication skills so that when important occasions arise, you will have the gift, the style, the sharpness, the clarity, and the emotions to affect other people

—Jim Rohn



HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

AWARD	DATE	MEMBER	Club NAME
MS3	5/30/2022	Adele O'Neal, DTM	Toasting Excellence Club
EH4	5/24/2022	Angela Stringer, VC1	Lebanon Toastmasters
EH5	5/24/2022	Angela Stringer, VC2	Toast of Corvallis Toastmasters Club
PI2	5/24/2022	Bella Nissen, PI2	Lake Oswego Toastmasters Club
LD2	5/24/2022	Cheri Perry, DTM	Totem Pole Club
PM1	5/24/2022	Christine Seed, PM1	Blue Ox Club
SR5	5/26/2022	Dave Bones, DTM	Liberty Talkers
MS1	5/26/2022	Dave Bones, DTM	Liberty Talkers
EH1	5/30/2022	Dave Hardenbrook, EH1	Babble-On Toastmasters Club
TC2	5/28/2022	Derek Burge, TC1	Salem Speak and Lead Club
EC1	5/28/2022	Diane Forsberg, ACB, CL	Salem Speak and Lead Club
IP1	5/24/2022	Don LaMunyon, DTM	Totem Pole Club
TC1	5/24/2022	Emily Crouse, TC1	Clark County Toastmasters Club
VC4	5/28/2022	Emily Myers, VC5	Waffle Toasters
VC5	5/28/2022	Emily Myers, VC5	Waffle Toasters
VC2	5/26/2022	Harvey Schowe, DTM	Civil Tongues Club
MS5	5/25/2022	Heddy Radkey, MS4	Myrtlewood Hootowlers Club
DL3	5/25/2022	Jake Sullivan, DL3	Waffle Toasters
MS1	5/24/2022	Jeff Ramey, MS1	Encouraging Words Club
TC3	5/26/2022	Joanna Johnson, TC3	Flying Toasters Club
PI1	5/24/2022	Joseph Taylor, CC	Totem Pole Club
PI1	5/24/2022	Judah Smith, PI1	Professionally Speaking
LD2	5/31/2022	Julianna Leach, DTM	North Eugene Toastmasters
LD3	5/31/2022	Julianna Leach, DTM	North Eugene Toastmasters
DL3	5/28/2022	Latryska (Trish) Adams, DL4	Salem Speak and Lead Club
DL4	5/28/2022	Latryska (Trish) Adams, DL4	Salem Speak and Lead Club
PI1	5/26/2022	Leanna Lindquist, DTM	Feedbackers Toastmasters Club

HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

AWARD	DATE	MEMBER	Club NAME
PI2	5/26/2022	Leanna Lindquist, DTM	Feedbackers Toastmasters Club
PI4	5/28/2022	Lyle Schellenberg, DTM	Salem Speak and Lead Club
PM1	5/24/2022	Mao Kenney, PM1	Nano-Mated Speakers
PI1	5/24/2022	Marsha Reynolds, DTM	Clark County Toastmasters Club
MS1	5/28/2022	Mike Long, MS1	Salem Speak and Lead Club
TC1	5/28/2022	Mori Carlsdotter, TC1	Salem Speak and Lead Club
MS2	5/28/2022	Nathaniel Coussens, MS1	At The River's Edge Club
DL2	5/24/2022	Nuchanath M. Aumpradithpun, DTM	Feedbackers Toastmasters Club
PM1	5/24/2022	Richard Brand, ACB, CL	Clark County Toastmasters Club
MS4	5/31/2022	RICHARD TAYLOR, MS4	Myrtlewood Hootowlers Club
LD2	5/24/2022	Ronald Edson, LD2	Totem Pole Club
PM2	5/24/2022	Sarah Fox, PM2	Professionally Speaking
PM1	5/24/2022	Stephana M. Johnson, PM3	Clark County Toastmasters Club
PM2	5/24/2022	Stephana M. Johnson, PM3	Clark County Toastmasters Club
PM3	5/24/2022	Stephana M. Johnson, PM3	Clark County Toastmasters Club
MS2	5/30/2022	Tim Blankenship, MS3	Encouraging Words Club
MS3	5/30/2022	Tim Blankenship, MS3	Encouraging Words Club
MS1	5/24/2022	Tim Blankenship, MS3	Encouraging Words Club

TRIPLE CROWN AWARD PINS

Name	Number Earned	Awards
Adele O'Neal, DTM	3	EC2 , EC3 , MS3
Alan Campbell, VC3	3	VC1 , VC2 , VC3
Alan Svehaug, DTM	4	MS4 , MS5 , PM1 , PM2
ALICE ZAFIRI, PM4	4	PM1 , PM2 , PM3 , PM4
Allan B. Edinger, DTM	5	EH1 , EH2 , EH3 , EH4 , EH5
Angela Stringer, VC1	5	EH4 , PI1 , PM5 , EH5 , VC1
Annette Mulligan, DL1	3	DL1 , MS4 , MS5
Arlene Siegel Cogen, DL5	3	DL4 , DL5 , PWMENTORPGM
Barbara Winn, LD3	4	DL1 , LD1 , LD2 , LD3
Bella Nissen, PI2	3	MS4 , PI1 , PI2
Bob Leach, DL3	3	DL3 , PM1 , PM2
Brandon Marsh, PM3	3	PM1 , PM2 , PM3
Brian Wolf, IP5	5	IP2 , IP3 , IP4 , IP5 , PWMENTORPGM
Charlie Smiley, EH3	3	EH1 , EH2 , EH3
Cheri Redgrave, DTM	3	IP5 , PM1 , PM2
Cheryl McFadden, PM3	3	EH2 , EH3 , PM3
Constance Frankland, EH4	4	EH1 , EH2 , EH3 , EH4
Dave Bones, DTM	3	MS1 , SR5 , SR4
David Brookins, VC5	3	VC3 , VC4 , VC5
David Shehorn, TC3	8	TC1 , TC2 , TC3 , EH5 , PM1 , PM2 , PM3 , PM4
Dorice Horenstein, TC5	4	PWMENTORPGM , TC3 , TC4 , TC5
Dorothy Cottingham, DTM, PID	4	TC1 , TC2 , VC4 , VC5
Douglas Chilson, LD3	3	LD1 , LD2 , LD3
Edward Thomas, SR5	4	PWMENTORPGM , SR3 , SR4 , SR5
Elizabeth Harris, VC5	6	VC4 , VC5 , DL3 , DL4 , DL5 , PWMENTORPGM
Ellen Ino, DTM	3	EH1 , PI4 , PI5
Emilie Taylor, DTM	11	EH4 , PM1 , DTM , DL1 , EC3 , EH5 , PM2 , PM3 , PWMENTORPGM , SR4 , EC4
Emily Myers, VC5	4	PWMENTORPGM , VC3 , VC4 , VC5
Erik Bergman, DTM	4	EH4 , VC1 , VC2 , VC3
Ernest Standeven, DTM	3	PI3 , PM2 , PWMENTORPGM
Greg Hawkins, MS5	3	MS4 , MS5 , PM3
Gwendolyn Avington, DL5	4	DL2 , DL3 , DL4 , DL5

TRIPLE CROWN AWARD PINS

Name	Number Earned	Awards
Heddy Radkey, MS4	3	MS3 , MS4 , MS5
Helen Grothe, DTM	6	MS2 , VC1 , VC2 , VC3 , VC4 , VC5
Jean M. Baker, IP5	4	IP2 , IP3 , IP4 , IP5
Jennifer Baker, EC3	3	EC1 , EC2 , EC3
Jerome Kleffner, DTM	3	LD1 , LD2 , LD3
Joanna Johnson, TC3	3	DL5 , TC2 , TC3
John Marquardt, DTM	3	IP2 , IP3 , IP4
John Morbitzer, IP4	4	IP1 , IP2 , IP3 , IP4
Joshua D. Smith, DTM	6	EH5 , IP3 , IP4 , SR1 , VC2 , VC4
Judy Chan, EH2	3	EH1 , EH2 , PM5
Julius Locke, DTM	3	DL3 , LD5 , LD4
Karen A. Semprevivo, DTM	3	PM3 , PM4 , LD5
Karen Brozovich, TC2	3	PM5 , TC1 , TC2
Kate Beck, PM5	5	PM2 , PM3 , PM4 , PM5 , PWMENTORPGM
Katherine Stark, DTM	7	PM4 , PM3 , MS5 , PI3 , PI4 , PM1 , PM2
Katrina Hubbard, PM3	3	PM1 , PM2 , PM3
Kristine Obritschkewitsch, PM3	4	PM1 , PM2 , PM3 , TC5
Kunal Taravade, DL5	6	DL1 , DL2 , DL3 , DL4 , DL5 , PWMENTORPGM
Latryska (Trish) Adams, DL4	4	DL1 , DL2 , DL3 , DL4
Leanna Lindquist, DTM	5	EH2 , PM5 , EH1 , PI1 , PI2
Leela Seeber, IP4	3	EC1 , EC2 , IP4
Lieve Maas, EC4	4	EC1 , EC2 , EC3 , EC4
Linda Naylor, PI5	6	PI1 , PI2 , PI3 , PI4 , PI5 , PWMENTORPGM
Lindsey Batchelder, EC4	3	EC2 , EC3 , EC4
Lisa Garon, PM3	3	PM1 , PM2 , PM3
Lisa Schupp, DTM	3	EC1 , EC2 , MS4
Lyle Schellenberg, DTM	5	MS4 , PI2 , PI4 , MS5 , PI3
Maria Lee, DTM	6	EH1 , EH2 , EH3 , EH4 , EH5 , PWMENTORPGM
Megan Peaker, LD5	13	IP4 , IP5 , LD1 , LD2 , LD3 , LD4 , LD5 , PI1 , PI2 , PI3 , PI4 , PI5 , PWMENTORPGM
Michael Rosenberg, SR1	4	MS1 , MS2 , PM4 , SR1
Mitchell Priestley, DL5	11	DL1 , DL2 , DL3 , DL4 , DL5 , PM1 , PM2 , PM3 , PM4 , PM5 , PWMENTORPGM

TRIPLE CROWN AWARD PINS

Name	Number Earned	Awards
Paul Fanning, DTM	3	EH3 , EH4 , EH5
Peter Abramowicz, PI5	3	PI3 , PI4 , PI5
Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM	4	EH1 , EH3 , EH2 , PM4
PJ Kleffner, DTM	3	EH3 , PM1 , VC4
Rachel Rodman, VC4	4	VC1 , VC2 , VC3 , VC4
Ray Fox, PM5	8	EH1 , EH2 , EH3 , EH4 , PM2 , PM3 , PM4 , PM5
Ray Pettit, SR5	4	PWMENTORPGM , SR3 , SR4 , SR5
Robert Hall, DTM	4	EC1 , EC2 , EC3 , PI5
Rocky Savage, PM5	4	EC1 , PM3 , PM4 , PM5
Rusty Lee, DTM	10	EH2 , EH3 , EH4 , EH5 , PWMENTORPGM , TC1 , TC2 , TC3 , TC4 , TC5
Samuel Sarsten, IP4	3	IP2 , IP3 , IP4
Sarah Rosenberg Brown, EC5	11	EC1 , EC2 , EC3 , EC4 , EC5 , LD1 , LD2 , LD3 , LD4 , LD5 , PWMENTORPGM
Scott Strickland, DTM	3	EC5 , PM1 , PM2
Sieana A. Chandra, DTM	6	PM1 , PM3 , PM2 , PM4 , PM5 , PWMENTORPGM
Stephana M. Johnson, PM3	8	DL1 , DL2 , DL3 , DL4 , DL5 , PM1 , PM2 , PM3
Stephanie Stephan, MS3	3	MS1 , MS2 , MS3
Steve Mathis, PM4	4	PI2 , PM2 , PM3 , PM4
Suzanne Loeb, DTM	11	VC3 , VC4 , DTM , PM5 , PI1 , PI2 , PI3 , PI4 , PI5 , PWMENTORPGM , VC5
Tamsen Corbin, TC4	3	TC4 , VC2 , VC3
Ted Takamura, DTM	3	EH2 , EH3 , EH4
Terry Helland, PM4	4	PM1 , PM2 , PM3 , PM4
Tim Blankenship, MS3	4	EH5 , MS1 , MS2 , MS3
Tom Briggs, VC2	4	PM5 , PWMENTORPGM , VC1 , VC2
Vickie Kennedy, PM5	7	IP5 , PM1 , PM2 , PM3 , PM4 , PM5 , PWMENTORPGM
Wanqi Angela Tanaka, LD2	3	IP5 , LD1 , LD2
Yahong Neiryndck, DL2	3	DL1 , DL2 , SR1

DISTINGUISHED CLUB PROGRAM

PRESIDENTS DISTINGUISHED

Babble-On Toastmasters Club

CareOregon

Clark County Toastmasters Club

Communicators Plus

New Horizons Toastmasters Club

Portland Club

Professionally Speaking

Sporty Speakers

Toast Of Tualatin, Lam Research

SELECT DISTINGUISHED

Capital Toastmasters Club

Feedbackers Toastmasters Club

PR Masters

The Standard Speakeasy Toastmasters

Waffle Toasters

Wallmasters International Club

ALMOST DISTINGUISHED

Club Name	Member Base	Members to Date	Members Needed	Goals
Roseburg Speakers and Storytellers	20	19	1	9
Sherwood Town Criers Club	14	17	2	6
Noon Talkers	21	18	2	6
Lake Oswego Toastmasters	9	13	1	6
WE Toasted Toastmasters	14	18	1	10
NoonTime Club	19	19	1	7
New Beginnings Toastmasters	11	15	1	8
West Beaverton Club	21	18	2	7
Essayons Club	26	24	-	4

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO JUNE CLUBS

CHARTER DATE	YEARS	Club	CITY
6/12/2001	21	AAA Towsters	Portland
6/1/1993	29	At The River's Edge	Portland
6/30/2004	18	Capital	Salem
6/1/2000	22	Civil Tongues	Portland
6/1/1946	76	Corvallis Evening Group	Corvallis
6/30/2010	12	Dallas	Dallas
6/1/1997	25	Flying Toasters	Salem
6/1/1988	34	Fortunate 500	Portland
6/28/2011	11	Hopemasters	Woodburn
6/1/1986	36	Jefferson State	Talent
6/1/1977	45	M A C	Portland
6/1/1988	34	McMinnville	McMinnville
6/1/1993	29	Moser Community	Portland
6/1/2014	8	Nano-Mated Speakers	Hillsboro
6/1/1980	42	NoonTime	Portland
6/1/2021	1	North Eugene	Eugene
6/30/2015	7	PMI Portland	Portland
6/10/2021	1	PR Masters	Portland
6/6/2012	10	Rogue Valley Networking	Grants Pass
6/30/2005	17	Speakers With Spirit	Ridgefield
6/1/1993	29	Stevenson Breakfast	Stevenson
6/14/2021	1	Sunset Talkers	Portland
6/24/2005	17	The University	Portland
6/29/2011	11	Toastmasters For Speaking Professionals	Portland
6/1/1989	33	Tualatin Valley	Hillsboro
6/1/1989	33	TV	Beaverton
6/13/2021	1	Unitus	Portland
6/12/2020	2	Waffle Toasters	Hillsboro



B. Lee Coyne, ATMS



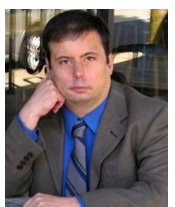
Jim Robison, DTM



Bob Hall, DTM



Ken Coomes, DTM



David Freedman, IP3



Lorri Andersen, DTM



Eldred Brown, DTM



Paul Fanning, DTM



Ellen Ino, DTM



Phyllis Harmon, DTM



Jennifer Schmidt, EH2



PJ Kleffner, DTM



Tell Me a Story

Toastmasters

Tuesdays - 7:00-8:15 pm

Meeting Online

Share ideas through story—Learn how at Tell Me A Story Toastmasters
[Click here](#) for more information on joining us for an online meeting