

*Making A Difference . . .*

## One Toastmaster At A Time



Volume 1

October 2006

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### SHERI PULIS, DTM DISTRICT GOVERNOR



Hello fellow Toastmasters!

I am so excited to begin *Making a Differ-*

*ence...One Toastmaster At A Time* as District 39 continues to grow after we *Sailed to Success* last year.

We each had our own successes to celebrate, whether it was the completion of an Educational Achievement, competing in a Speech Contest or just getting the courage to join a club; each member has a success story to write.

As we embark on our new Toastmaster journey, I am reminded of a quote by Elbert Hubbard, "Progress comes from the intelligent use of experience." There is so much more to experience, and so many ways to put that experience to use as we each choose to raise

our Toastmaster bar and go for the gusto.

I began my journey to becoming an effective communicator at the early age of 10 in church, guided by my mentor Elaine LaRue. She knew that to get the respect I deserved at an early age, I needed to be an effective communicator. Boy did she hit the nail on the head.

I became a charter member of LBDG Toastmasters in 2001 as I embarked on my leadership journey. I served as VP of Education and President for 2 terms. I soon realized my passion in communicating and leadership as I continued as Area 84 Governor. I took the next step and moved to Division H Governor, where we ended the year as Select Distinguished. What an amazing growing experience.

There's always more, my path took me to becoming the District 39 Lt Governor Marketing.

In this role, I continued to grow and see firsthand, what amazing members make up this District. My next leadership role as Lt Governor Education & Training, left me want to continue to serve the members.

As I continue serving, in the role of District Governor, my goals are simple: To help each member realize that they can and will make a difference, in their Clubs, in their Areas, in their Divisions, and in this District! How do you do that: Set your own Toastmaster goal, partner with a fellow Toastmaster and hold each accountable for reaching that goal. Also, to help members to be the best communicators and leaders in their personal and business lives.

I look forward to hearing your stories, your successes, your challenges - that you overcome - as each of you are *Making A Difference . . . One Toastmaster at a Time!*

### DIVISION SPEECH CONTESTS

Come out to  
support  
your contestants!

Remember, you can learn from watching great examples, too.

**October 6—Division E**  
7:00 pm 700 H Street

**October 7—Division C**

8:30 am Kountry Kitchen,  
Orland, CA

**October 13—Division F**

7:00 pm 8150 Industrial Blvd  
Surewest Communications  
Roseville, CA

**October 14—Division G**

12:30 pm 700 H Street

**October 20—Division H**

7:00 pm 4301 S Street—UCD  
Cancer Center

**October 21—Division B**

Carson City TBD

**October 27—Division D**

7:00 pm 700 H Street

**October 28—Division A**

11:00 am—1:30 pm  
201 W Locust Lodi, CA

**GARY PETTIGREW, ATM-G**

**LT. GOV. EDUCATION & TRAINING**



Gary Pettigrew discovered Toastmasters in February of 2003. He was chatting with his longtime friend Mike Glancy one evening after work about taking some college courses to improve his speaking and communication skills. Mike mentioned that he knew of an organization called Toastmasters which helped people improve their communication and leadership abilities, and that it may be worth looking

into. As Gary is always up for a good challenge, he quickly sought out a local Elk Grove Toastmasters club, Bits N Speeches, and made arrangements for he and Mike to attend that next Thursday.

As fate would have it, they were both greeted at the door by Ted and Donna Richard. By the time Gary left the meeting, he felt like he had known these people for years. Upon attending the second meeting, he participated in Table Topics, and after receiving applause for only a 24 second response to

a Table Topic question, he knew he wanted to be a part of this very supportive group!

After a few short meetings, Gary realized he was a part of a club that could help him realize his dream of comfortably speaking in front of a group. He wanted to achieve his CTM in record time. Led by excellent mentoring, he was able to complete this goal in eight short months. He soon realized he was achieving incredible results at work from using his newly-discovered talents learned at Toastmasters. He found he

was able to articulate his thoughts better, foster win-win relationships, and have fun in the process. Gary soon realized he had a passion for what Toastmasters was able to provide for him, and quickly wanted to share the program with others. He is currently working toward achieving his DTM by November, 2006.

Gary's Toastmasters leadership career quickly took off as well. He was elected to several offices in Bits N Speeches, became an Area

Governor, Division Governor, Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, and is currently serving the members of the District as the Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training.

Gary works as a Director of Forward Planning for Ryland Homes, a large Central Valley homebuilder headquartered in Ripon, CA. He and his family moved to the Elk Grove area in 1999; his eldest son Jeremy is an automotive technician in Arizona, and his youngest son Austin is enjoy-

ing being an adolescent. He continues to look forward to being active in the community and Toastmasters for many years!

***We all have a "story" to tell. Someone invited you, someone was a mentor to help you get started. Then the quality of the meetings and educational opportunities helped you see how to improve your life and career. while having fun!***

***Is your club fulfilling the chal-***



Past District Gov's, Ruth Maloney, Joe and Audrey Samora get into the Wild West theme in Reno—Spring Conference.

**TLI**

Oct. 21 9:30 am  
Chapman Univ.  
3001 Lava Ridge Ct. #250  
Roseville

Learn to create:  
PowerPoint Presentations  
Websites—free web hosting

Next TLI  
December 9  
10:30 am 700 H Street

**HOT! HOT! HOT!**

**District Website Facelift**

Can you help with the District 39 website? Have a suggestion? Contact our Public Relations committee by filling out a suggestion form on the website at: [www.district39.org](http://www.district39.org). While you're visiting the site, make sure the details on your own club are up to date and accurate. Changes are not automatic.

**Help Wanted**

Mentors, sponsors and coaches will be needed for new clubs chartering this year.

Our goal is 16 new clubs for 2006-07.

Learn leadership skills, be a club coach and help these clubs. Contact Joe Velky to volunteer at [joe.velky@payorid.com](mailto:joe.velky@payorid.com)

New clubs could use your help. Visit and offer your talents. The first year is critical to form lasting values & a good foundation for the future.

**Help Available**

We have two advanced clubs that are willing to share their talents: Leaders-R-Us and Traveling Trainers. Contact either club to tap their experience at: [www.district39.org](http://www.district39.org)



Past District Gov, Herb Long participates in Jackie Bates' last Executive meeting.

**DEBRA LEDSINGER, DTM**



It is my honor to work together with you as your Lieutenant Governor of Marketing; helping to grow our Toastmaster membership.

Growing your club's membership helps keep your club an exciting place to practice your speaking and leadership skills.

Helping with District 39's efforts starting and mentoring new clubs gives you ad-

vanced skills in supervision, mentoring and coaching. Take your career building potential to the next level.

I intend to meet and, possibly even exceed the goals, which have been established for us by TMI in the areas of New Clubs and Membership. Those goals are as follows:

- Charter 16 new clubs – that's 2 per Division – we have 1 on the way and 3 that are actively recruiting – would you like to help with a Demonstration Meeting?

- Here's how you can *Make A Difference* – contact me to:

- assist with demonstration meetings
- provide New Club leads and assist with follow up
- help with training or volunteer to be a Club Sponsor, Mentor or Coach

Even with all that going on, there are other ways you can assist! YOU are very crucial to the success of this mission to

help District 39 be successful, meet and exceed the goals, and ultimately, *Make A HUGE Difference* for many Toastmasters by:

- Paying your dues on time, submit them online early!
- Participate in the Membership Building Drives!
- Invite your friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, past Toastmasters and casual acquaintances to attend your club meetings and con-

- Increase our total clubs to 165 – we are at 158
- Increase our paid members to 6200 – we currently have a membership base of 5833 – have you checked out our Membership Drive?

I am not foolish enough to even entertain the thought of attempting any of this alone.

Together we can make it happen!

I have an Elite Marketing Team that is Simply Amazing!

**LT. GOV. MARKETING**



Past District Gov, Beth Mora prepares for an educational workshop at the Spring Conference.

*Ralph C. Smedley  
Memorial Fund*

*Help keep Smedley's vision alive—Support the development and creation of new materials in the fields of Communication and Leadership.*

*Honor someone with a club donation!*

**SPECIALTY CLUBS**

Looking for something new? Want to grow in a specific area or share an interest?

District 39 has Specialty clubs, you join in addition to your home club, to meet your needs.

**Flying Carpet Toastmasters**, a specialty club with a travel focus is for travelers and non-travelers alike. Contact Suzan Hawbaker at 916 971-9867 E-mail: [suzan.k.hawbaker@intel.com](mailto:suzan.k.hawbaker@intel.com)

**Join Leaders R Us** devoted to building leadership skills and providing the forum to practice them. Contact Don Geisen at 530 677-9113 or Email: [gddgies@aol.com](mailto:gddgies@aol.com)

**TIC-TOC**—TM In the Community—TM on Cable is your club's chance to experience being on TV. Contact Arne Sampe at 916 362-9013 or E-mail: [paulidaho@juno.com](mailto:paulidaho@juno.com)

**Professionally Speaking & Traveling Trainers** focus on

**WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?**

on your training skills. Contact LaWanna Parker or Pat Ramsey 916 457-5115 E-mail: [pramseyatms@aol.com](mailto:pramseyatms@aol.com)

**DOTCOM Masters** focuses on computer skills. Contact Bob Kraften 916 334-4768 or E-mail: [crobertyk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crobertyk@sbcglobal.net)

**Sacramento Solos**—yes a TM club for singles! Contact Barbara Payne at 916 383-0737 E: [bpayne@msll.com](mailto:bpayne@msll.com)

Check out one today!



Past District Gov's Ruth Maloney and Jackie Bates enjoyed the Spring Conf.

## NEXT DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

October 14 and December 9

9:30 am 700 H Street

All Toastmasters are welcome!

## REBUILDING LOW MEMBERSHIP CLUBS

Low attendance at your meetings? Now is the time to focus on increasing your membership. How?

Some tips:

- Conduct a Speechcraft
- Send a Press Release to your local newspaper
- Provide your HR with a packet for new hires
- Give your TM magazine to the Library or Dr. of- fice with your contact info on it
- Prepare invitations and

have each member ad- dress 5 to friends or family

- Phone past guests— invite!
- Put flyers in local busi- nesses
- Hang a “Toastmasters Meets Here” sign at your meeting location
- Create club business cards (date/time/ location) for every mem- ber to hand out
- Have a booth at local

events

- Wear your TM pin all the time
- Develop a club website
- Join an advanced or specialty club to bring ideas back to your home club
- Don't lose members after their CTM- encourage more partici- pation beyond the club

- Do an e-mail list of inter- ested guests, etc. Send periodic news from your club and invite them!
- Seek to provide a speaker on TM to local service clubs or other groups
- Treat guests like royalty— provide info packets, mem- bership forms and some- one to answer their ques- tions
- Have Fun!

Check us out on the web at:

[www.district39.org](http://www.district39.org)