

CONGRATULATIONS!

*YOU have a chance to WIN
in our
ON-LINE NEWSLETTER*

PHOTO CONTEST!

You'll only hear about it here . . .

Bring your camera to the SPRING CONFERENCE!

Take pictures of all your friends

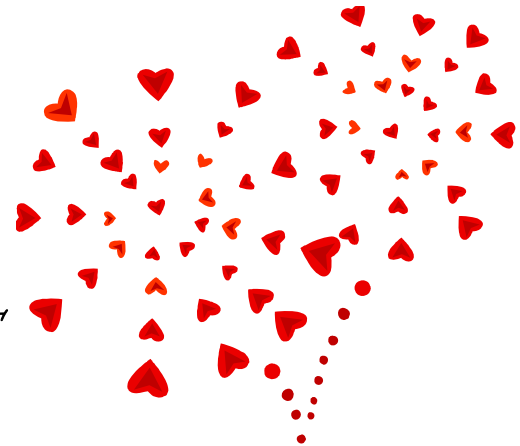
and

Cool events during the day

Submit them on-line to our

District WEBMASTER by JUNE 15, 2008

Right here on the website



The WINNING PHOTO will be picked by

JUNE 30, 2008

GRAND PRIZE

WE WILL PAY

YOUR NEXT

SEMI-ANNUAL DUES



District Newsletter Photo Contest Rules

I. Who is ELIGIBLE?

- a. All photos must be submitted by a current member
- b. All photos must be taken during their attendance at the 2008 District 39 Spring Conference

II. What is ELIGIBLE?

- a. A member can submit as many photos as they like.
- b. All photos must be in good taste. In other words, if you would not show it to your grandmother . . .
- c. By submitting a photo you are giving us permission to post it on the website and use it in the next TransSierran Newsletter
- d. No photos from contests will be eligible since you are not allowed to take pictures during a contest. Photos can be taken during any other portion of the event
- e. Photos submitted will include a brief description of the event and activity involved
- f. All people in the photos must be identified unless it is a large group event

III. When is the DEADLINE for entry?

- a. Photos must be submitted by June 15th
- b. Submit your photos by sending them to the Webmaster via the Contact Us feature on the District 39 website at: district39.org or mail a CD to:

Suzan Hawbaker
3829 Sunnyvale Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

- c. All submissions must include contact information including:
 - Name
 - Address or E-mail
 - Phone Number
 - Your home Club name and number

IV. Who will DECIDE the WINNER?

- a. The judges will be chosen by the Public Relations Officer and TransSierran Newsletter Chair
- b. The judge's decision will be final

V. GRAND PRIZE

- a. Winner's Semi-Annual Dues (6 month) paid to the club of their choice
- b. Winner will be announced at the July 2, 2008 District Executive Meeting

Toastmasters in a prison?

By Arnold Kunst, Area 41 Governor

What a novel idea! It certainly doesn't fit the stereotype. That may fit some felons, but what about the ones who've decided they want to make a real contribution to the world they live in? If my 10 years' experience working at a prison is anything to go by, there are more guys like that than you'd imagine.

Some time after I became Area 41 Governor I found out that there were 50 guys at California State Prison Solano in Vacaville where I work who are interested in Toastmasters. The prison is in Area 41. We've scratched the surface a little and the original 50 has mushroomed into 132! And if that weren't enough, there are another 35 guys next door at Vacaville's other prison, the California Medical Facility, interested in Toastmasters. Wow!

Why the excitement? Listen to these testimonials:

Jerrick: "After 16 years of incarceration and 6 months of Toastmasters, I don't have to look for handouts or play on anyone's sympathy anymore. Why? Because I can present myself and speak in a clear, organized and professional manner."

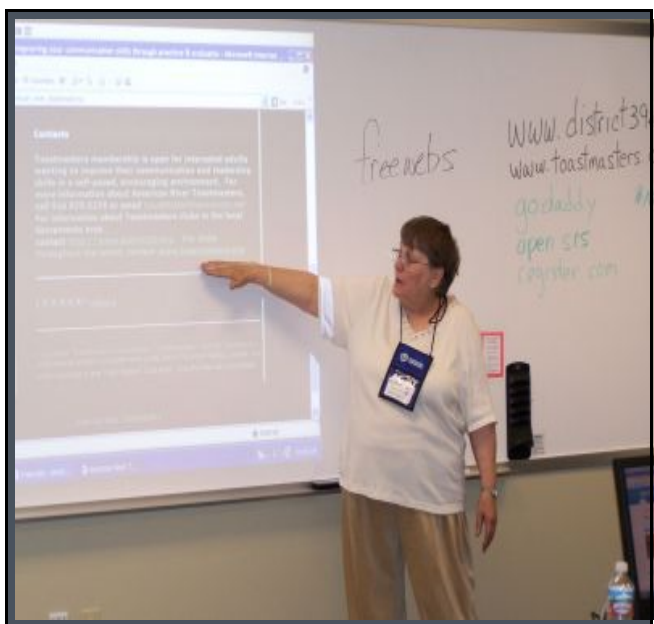
Don Ferris, DTM: "Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think I would receive so much personal gratification as I have in working with this group of energetic inmates!"

Alice Tippet, a prison teacher, speaking to volunteers: "You have offered them a way to grow in personal leadership, better speaking, better listening and better thinking. They are all taking their roles very seriously and having a lot of fun doing it."

Wardens too – according to one enthusiastic warden, out of 80 former Toastmaster parolees from his prison, only one returned to prison. That's a 1,25% recidivism rate – the figure for California parolees is 72%. Once again, wow!

Convicted felons beginning a Toastmasters experience need our support. I have a few stalwarts interested in helping out, but I need more. For one thing, I am retiring from state service at the end of July, and I want to leave the club – or clubs – in a solid position.

So here's what I'm suggesting, if any of this has caught your interest or piqued your curiosity, give me a call and we can arrange for you to sit in on a meeting. No pressure. I'm at 916-213-7463. Thanks for your attention. Arnold Kunst, Area 41 Governor.



Louise Houdelette, Chair of Toastmasters Learning Institute (TLI), gives a class on creating a club website through the free hosting service from Toastmasters.

Want to learn more about marketing your club?

Check out class offerings at TLI on our website.

Are Toastmasters Genuine?

By Patricia Ramsey, DTM

Why do I ask that? The story begins this way. In the fall of 2001 I was asked if I would like to help mentor an Inmate Club at California State Prison, Sacramento. I thought why not! Some the mentors were rapidly burning out. In the subsequent years I was able to bring in some new mentors. The other mentors did the same. However, the club was no more by the very beginning of 2004.

Last July, I had a call from Bob Massey a long time member of Sunrise Center Club. Best known as Farmer Bob. He said that because of the mandate to encourage rehabilitation of inmates, the correctional facility was interested in bringing back a Gavel Club. I called upon Al James, Tamara Gary-El that first evening. Before I knew it, we were meeting with the Associate Warden, Deputy Warden & Warden of the Institution. They have given us total support. We have a dedicated sponsor Chaplain Stewart, who is employed by CSP, Sacramento.

October 1, 2007 was our first meeting & 19 inmates attended. The majority of the meetings have had more than 20 inmates. We meet twice a month. The inmates are stepping up to the plate & fulfilling all roles. They have completed 16 speeches. We as mentors, fill in where necessary. Our mentors are: Jim Edelen, Tony Frontino, Tamara Gary-El, myself, & soon Karen Daly, Van Gordon & Carole Drake.

We will have a speech & evaluation contest the fourth Monday in February. This carries the positive theme friendly competition. In March, we are featuring mock job interviews & developing a resume. The club's goals are to have at least 20 inmates attend per meeting for the next three meetings. This is our last goal. They have completed the first two goals: named the club & elected officers. I envision by the middle of March that this club will charter as a gavel club.

With a bit of humor, we were waiting at the first gate to enter one Monday Evening, the A.A. mentors were waiting with us to enter. They asked us if we were A.A. Sponsors & Jim Edelen replied that we are Toastmasters. The A.A. people gave us a strange look! I hurriedly answered that we don't teach people to Toast & to drink, we teach participants communication, education & leadership skills.

Did I say are Toastmasters genuine? Actually we can not call a member of a gavel club a Toastmaster. This club's name is **Genuine Gavel Club**. These men are genuine Gaveliers. But I'm sure they feel that Toastmasters have very big hearts & are genuine too.

I'm sure as a majority of you are aware I was going to make this my swan song year. But I have changed my mind. I will be working with this club. I will pay dues to a regular club & an advanced club. My activity will center upon this gavel club. A woman has a right to change her mind!



Not sure what the LEADERSHIP experience in TM is all about?

Volunteer to help at any function.

LEARN—
GROW—
Have FUN!

Club Officer Training

Thank you to all of the club officers who attended club officer's training during the months of December, January and February. A total of 63 clubs have 4 or more officers trained. You have helped your clubs move one step closer to reaching distinction!

Congratulations to the following clubs for having all 7 officers trained! The presidents of these clubs will be entered into a drawing. The lucky club President whose name is drawn at the next Executive Council Meeting will receive a FREE Spring Conference Registration!

Tracy Toastmasters City Talkers
Club Flying Carpet Toastmasters Club
Harry Hoffman Advanced TM Club
Speaking Machine Club
Charle's Angels Club
Lodi Toastmasters Club
Bits 'N Speeches
Aesop's Fblers Club
Toastmasters Greater North Stockton Club
Rapmasters Toastmasters
Washoe Express Club
University Club
We, The People Club
Capital Communicators Club
Babble On Club
Roseville Communicators Club
Foothills R.O.C. Toastmasters Club
Empire Toastmasters Club
Penn Valley Club
Good to Great Toastmasters Club
Traveling Trainers Club
Dot Com Masters Club

Peachbowl Dawnbreakers Club
Sunrise Speakers Club
RCAC
Team Travis Toastmasters
Vaca Morning Toast Club
Lyon Speaks Tonight Club
Protalkers Toastmasters Club
Dreambuilder
Equalizers Club
First Nevadans Toastmasters Club
Washoe Zephyrs Club
Sagebrush Sayers
Reveilliers Club
Toastmasters Leadership Club
HP Northside Club
Pop-Up Toastmasters Club
Early Risers Club
Smilemasters
Mather Toastmasters Club
Vineyard Toastmasters
Speaking From The Heart Toastmasters Club
Leaders-R-Us Club

**Keep up the excellent work!!!
Continue to Let Your Voice Speak Through Toastmasters!!!**



Be a WINNER—

Participate in a
SPEECH CONTEST!

Imagine the airwaves are alive with the sound of Toastmasters! Starting March 1, Big Jim Hall at radio Station KHITs (92.1 FM) began encouraging listeners to check out Toastmasters to increase their speaking skills. As part of the 60-second promotional advertisement, Toastmasters Dianne Bish and I were taped, following a script that Jim had written (and we tweaked a bit). My role was that of a regular guy whose speaking abilities were vastly improved. Dianne's role took on the persona of a Toastmaster leader to encourage others to attend a meeting and see for themselves. With Jim's intro and conclusion, the advertisement was taped within a two-hour period. Yet to come will be two separate weeks' worth of "Commuter Quiz" questions, all relating in one way or another to Toastmasters, speaking, and leading - and giving Jim another set of opportunities to tell the Toastmasters' story. This first foray into radio advertising will be monitored to determine how many potential new members may come into Toastmasters through the airwaves, club open houses and club marketing efforts. "Stay tuned for further news!"

New members help clubs reach one or perhaps two Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goals. Retaining and nurturing our member helps a club accomplish up to eight DCP goals. During the remaining months of this Toastmaster year, work on meeting the needs of every member.

One way to do that is to use the Club Mentor Program and Mentor Kit, Item 1163 at the Toastmaster International Store.

The mentor program offers many benefits for your club. By putting a little extra effort toward propelling newer members to get off to a good start, your club can turn apprehensive new members into dedicated, enthusiastic Toastmasters. The package includes everything you need to start a mentoring program for club members.

I recommend that you order a kit for you club. The kit includes: Includes:

- * Instructions
- * 20 Mentor Interest Surveys (1163A)
- * 20 Mentee Assignment Notices (1163B)
- * 20 Mentor Assignment Notices (1163C)
- * Sample Mentor Certificate (1163D)

Actually, consider having mentors for every member of the club. Even experienced Toastmasters need encouragement toward meeting new goals.

Hope to see all of you at the Spring Conference.



Joe Velky, DTM gives a report at the District Executive Council Meeting.

Held on Saturday mornings, the meeting is open to ALL. Check the District Calendar on this website for details. Come check out what is going on and find ways to learn and grow your LEADERSHIP skills.