



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

District News and Events

District 39

November 2014

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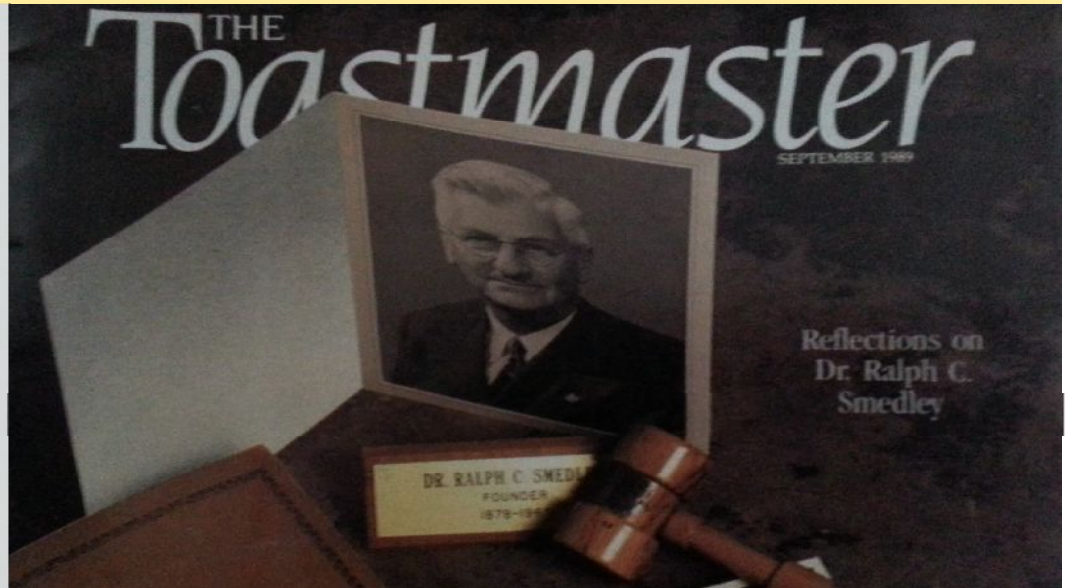
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To all of you who include Toastmasters in your lives because you know it can make a difference in your quest for success, I applaud you. You are among the 330,000 Toastmasters worldwide who are embarking on the same path. You may be one who, along with me, can say that "Toastmasters has changed my life."

A few weeks ago, approximately 300 of our members enjoyed all that was offered at the District 39 Fall Conference in Sacramento. The theme of "Looking Back, Moving Forward" was very appropriate: It's the 90th year since the founding of Toastmasters, following our district's 60th anniversary celebration last year. Both anniversaries mark a legacy of thousands of people who have reaped the benefits of the program--including you.

At the conference, we learned speaking skills from our keynote speaker, 1999 World Champion of Public Speaking Craig Valentine. We broadened our horizons from the eight education sessions. We were inspired by the accomplishments of our Communication and Leadership Award recipient, California State Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

We crowned our Humorous Speech winners: 1st place Ruth Schwartz (Empire Toastmasters Club, Grass Valley); 2nd place Rachel Ringenbach (Amped Toastmasters Club, Reno, NV); 3rd place Marisa Shadrack (Toast at Noon, Redding); and our Evaluation winners, 1st place Alice Pongracz (Kaiser Thrive Talkers, Roseville); 2nd place Michael Hansen (Skillbuilders Toastmasters, Citrus Heights); and 3rd place Cheryl Weibling (Sunset Speakers, Red Bluff).

Best of all, we had fun!

New Club Building

Have you ever thought about how your co-workers or community members could benefit from the Toastmasters program, but there just isn't a convenient club nearby? Most new clubs start because one person decided to create one. Toastmasters International and District 39 will provide you with the training and support needed to help you get your new club started. For more information on how to start a new club, contact Sondra Nunez, Sondra.Nunez@District39.org

Or visit

www.district39.org/membership/starting-a-new-toastmasters-club

Welcome District 39's newest clubs:

#04304626
Kung Fu Kicking Panda
Toastmasters
Chartered 11.4.2014
1st & 3rd Saturday, 8:30am
Panda Express, 6000 J St,
Sacramento, CA

#4366146
SETA Toastmasters
Chartered 11.17.2014
1st & 3rd Friday, 12pm
Sacramento Employment
Agency, 925 Del Paso Blvd,
Sacramento, CA

Four months into the year, and you have already made great strides in the quest to be successful again following last year's achievement as a Select Distinguished District. It all starts with the members and your clubs. Your dedication and individual achievements make your clubs thrive; however, earning educational and leadership awards is just one part of the equation.

Other important components of successful clubs are: mentoring other members; offering support and encouragement; and, providing that safe, friendly club environment that is the hallmark of Toastmasters. As a result of your collective efforts and contributions, clubs are accomplishing their goals as they work toward becoming distinguished.

I encourage each of you to stay the course as you make a difference in many people's lives—including your own—through the Toastmasters program.

Live for Excellence!
Brian Hatano, DTM
District Governor

Communication and Leadership Award presented to Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye at the Fall Conference



Read excerpts from her speech on the District 39 website:
<http://www.district39.org/california-chief-justice-cantil-sakauye-honored-at-fall-conference/>

Education and Training News

Club Officer Elections and Reporting

Has your club held its officer elections? For all semiannual and some annual clubs it is time for clubs to hold elections for the term of office beginning in January. Following elections, clubs need to update their officer information on the Toastmasters International website. A current club officer must log in to the TI site and select Club Central. Then select "View/Update/Print my club officer information" and use the drop down lists to update the information.

Beyond electing new officers, the updating of officer information affects several important aspects of club operation and performance. The timely election and reporting of officers has a direct bearing on the club's Distinguished Club Program, Goal #10. Another way the club is affected is to ensure accurate contact

information for officers is available to TI, the District, and other Toastmasters conducting official business. The updated information is used to produce Toastmasters International's official list of club officers that the district uses in recording credit for district sponsored club officer training that is reported to TI. In addition, the information is used to update the District Directory so the sooner clubs update their officer information, the sooner the district can produce an accurate District Directory.

Region Advisor Visit

Region 2 Advisor Jim Kohli will visit District 39 next month. He will arrive Thursday, December 11 and stay until Saturday, December 13, 2014. While visiting he will be very busy. His activities will include club visits, cold calls on organizations that are potential new club sponsors, recognition for selected clubs and attendance at the December DECM.

RA Kohli will arrive in time to partake of the Holiday Breakfast scheduled prior to the DECM. He will speak at the DECM as well as the Area Governor training session following the DECM. Following his presentation at the training he will spend a little more time with District Leadership before he ends his visit.

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear what is currently being discussed at TI as well as to hear about the resources available from TI to help your club and the District be successful. Make sure you attend the December DECM to hear the Region 2 Advisor provide the information and answer the questions you need to have a more successful year.

Clubs with Annual Terms of Office

Clubs with annual terms of office should update/confirm their officer information on the TI website. This ensures accurate information is available for the many uses listed above as well as a club reminder to document unusual circumstances such as individual changes or unforeseen office vacancies.

IMPORTANT!

Club officer information must be updated prior to the end of the current term. If the information becomes outdated, the club will lose access to Club Central. The only way to regain access is to contact TI to update the information. This can sometimes be a troublesome process beyond the inconvenience of being unable to conduct club business until the issue is resolved.

Another common issue clubs encounter is to have members not in good standing holding an officer position. Clubs often forget that members who are in arrears with dues cannot hold an officer position and must be replaced.

Reporting Dates

Club officers must be updated on the TI website by the end of the current term, either December 31 or June 30. After that date clubs will need to take remedial action, even if officers did not change. For individual officers, members are "graced" for dues until November 30 for the semiannual dues period beginning October 1, and until May 31 for the semiannual dues period beginning April 1. Unpaid dues after the grace dates are no longer considered members in good standing.

Remember to make timely report updates. Missing the above dates can create frustrating and complicated issues for clubs.

Did You Know?

Club Officer Elections

Clubs should appoint a nominating committee for club officer candidates at least two weeks before club elections. The committee is to be composed of three active club members with the chair being the immediate past club president unless the best interests of the club require otherwise.

Toastmasters International directs clubs to hold officer elections during its first club meeting in November for the term of office beginning in January and the first club meeting in May for the term of office beginning in July. The reason for holding elections at least one month ahead of taking office is to provide a period to prepare files for transition between officers, prepare club accounts for audit and offer the chance for the new and old officers to work together for a smooth transfer of duties. The early election dates present the incoming officers the opportunity to attend district sponsored officer training prior to taking office.

officers trained during the June to August 2014 training period. This represents 24% of the clubs in the District, a remarkable accomplishment and a near record achievement for the District. To acknowledge their sacrifice and positive attitude, the District recognizes them for their efforts and presents their clubs with a \$10 gift certificate for merchandise from the Toastmasters catalog which they will soon receive. A complete list of club names is available on the District website.

Area Governor Club Visit Reports Due

This is a quick reminder to Area Governors that the deadline for club visit reports is November 30. If you have made club visits and have yet to report them online, time is running out. You must submit your reports as prescribed by the Distinguished Area Program in order to get credit for the visits you have made. These visits are essential to being a support resource to your clubs, maintaining lines of communication and being familiar with the individual issues associated with the clubs. Club visits are the best way to help the clubs under your purview achieve success.

Clubs Earn the 1-3-5-9 Incentive Award

Certain clubs exemplify excellence. They exude pride, dedication and achievement. They are the gold standard of performance that other clubs strive to meet. While all Toastmaster Clubs proclaim themselves to be good clubs, few clubs demonstrate the quintessential characteristics of quality in an objective manner as displayed by the following organizations.

Six clubs in District 39 stand out as top performers by earning the 1 – 3 – 5 – 9 Incentive Award. The name represents the goals of the Distinguished Club Program achieved between July 1 and October 15 of this year. Their clubs have had members who cumulatively earned a minimum of two Competent Communicator Awards, one Advanced Communicator Award, one Leadership Award and had at least four club officers attend district sponsored training between June and August. The clubs are:

Moonlighters Toastmasters Club – Division A, Area 14
Sierra Advanced Speakers – Division A, Area 14
Foothill Toastmasters – Division F, Area 61
Voices of Lincoln – Division F, Area 64
Mather Toastmasters – Division G, Area 75
Master Talkers Club – Division H, Area 83

In appreciation from the District for your achievement you have our gratitude and a \$25 gift certificate for the Toastmasters Catalog Store. Thank you.

Clubs Achieving the 7 for 7 Officer Training Incentive

A fundamental requirement of successful clubs are dedicated, proficient and competent club officers and leaders. Clubs are more successful when the officers attend district sponsored training. Four officers trained suggests a club has the leadership necessary to achieve members' goals. Clubs with all seven officers trained demonstrate a dedication and will to succeed that is nearly irrepressible. The District had 44 clubs with all seven of its

Revitalized Education Program Update

This is an excerpt from an update to the Learning Masters and Ambassadors of the new education program.

In 2010 the Board recognized the need to modernize the communication program and more completely support leadership learning as part of the member experience. Since that time, the Toastmasters educational experience has been evaluated in a way that's never been done before.

From all of the research, we've identified the core competencies that are the foundation of Toastmasters learning:

- *Public speaking*
- *Interpersonal communication*
- *Leading and managing*
- *Leading strategically*
- *Confidence*

These core competencies, and the many sub-competencies that support them, are the structure of the revitalized education program that is currently under development.

This is the largest project the organization has ever undertaken and the deepest revision to the educational program in our history. The new program will provide members with:

- *Customized learning, based on the core competencies, that fits their personal goals.*
- *Earlier recognition to reward success and encourage continuing achievement.*
- *Projects that challenge members, require increased effort as they progress and result in demonstrable proficiency gains.*
- *A formalized member-mentoring program.*
- *Online access and achievement tracking.*

As you can imagine, developing and deploying this new program is an incredibly complex task. There are many factors we must consider, and here are just a few:

- *How does this affect the club meeting?*
- *How will the new program integrate with the recognition programs (DCP, DRP)?*
- *How can we ensure more consistent member mentoring?*
- *How long will the overlap period be for members working through the existing program?*
- *When will the program launch?*

A few of the questions can be answered today:

- *The format of the club meeting will continue to have speakers and evaluations, Table Topics, a Toastmaster of the day, and of course the Ah Counter.*
- *We anticipate the overlap period will be 24 months.*
- *To ensure that the education program is fully developed and structurally sound, we will conduct beta testing with selected members and clubs. The timing of the beta testing will be announced in late 2014, with a program launch in 2015.*

There is a significant amount of the new education program that is still under development, and Learning Masters and Ambassadors will continue to be a vital part of the process to ensure that members and clubs around the world are represented, and that we're able to carry messaging about the program to clubs in person. For now, we ask for your patience and understanding. The organization's commitment is to develop and release an exceptional program that meets members' needs today and into the future.

As information becomes available, it will be shared with the Ambassadors, who will share it with you; you can also find details in the Toastmaster magazine and on www.toastmasters.org.

2015 Leadership Breakfasts

Remember to mark your calendar for the Leadership Breakfasts coming in February 2015. There will be two events this year, one in the Reno area on February 7 and one in the Sacramento area on February 14. Both events are gearing up to be special and you will benefit from attending either or both. Of note, the keynote for the Sacramento Leadership Breakfast will be presented by 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking Lance Miller. You will be able to find more detailed information about each event on the District website as it becomes available. Register on EventBrite today to get the best pricing.

Second Round Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) and Officer Training

The second training period begins December 1, 2014 and continues to February 28, 2015. Five TLI events have been tentatively scheduled. The first TLI will be held on December 6, 2014 in Reno on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. It will be held in the Orvis School of Nursing from 12 to 3 PM. The event will offer district sponsored officer training and several enrichment sessions that are relevant and helpful for all Toastmasters, officers and non-officers alike.

The enrichment sessions of a TLI make it a special event. Topics like how to conduct speech contests and judges training are essential to a successful speech contest. The topics addressed by the Club Success Series, Leadership Excellence Series and Better Speaker Series are the presentations that take Toastmasters beyond basic knowledge to a new level of competency that is hard to obtain during club meetings. TLI education sessions can present new concepts and strategies that take more time than is available during regular club meetings. The opportunity to network and share ideas with Toastmasters from other clubs is invaluable. There are answers available at a TLI that may be unobtainable in your club environment. Attending a TLI can present a Toastmaster access to information and strategies of an advanced nature that accelerate the learning and development process for which all Toastmasters search. While attending officer training may satisfy the administrative requirement of TI, attending a TLI can be a productive, proficient and personally satisfying learning experience from which all Toastmasters can benefit.

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LGET John L. Davis, DTM

Advanced and Specialty Clubs

Did you know you many Toastmasters belong to more than one club? District 39 offers many opportunities for its members to expand their Toastmasters experience by joining either an advanced or specialty club. We offer clubs which provide specific education and training on photography, classroom facilitation, stage performances, humor, advanced evaluations, storytelling, professional speaking, presenting after dinner speeches and so much more. Visit www.district39.org/about-district-39/advanced-and-specialty-clubs to learn more.

“Here we are, with tremendous opportunity before us. I challenge you to get to work to bring us up to a higher level of service. Let us share with others the benefits we have gained for ourselves.” -Ralph C. Smedley

District 39 Public Relations

Featured Online Resources

Press Release Archive

Toastmasters throughout District 39 have been receiving great press in local media publications this year.

Check out our online archive for links to the published content, the original press releases, and photographs.

<http://www.district39.org/press-release-archive/>

New YouTube Page

The District 39 YouTube page has been redesigned to provide you with easy access to Contest Speeches, Club Speeches, Event Promotions, and internationally-recognized speakers:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/d39tm>

Videos from the Fall Conference will be posted soon. If you or your club regularly post Toastmasters videos, we would be happy to include you on the District page.

Toastmasters in the News

- The Union newspaper in Nevada County, CA announced Ruth Schwartz' winning the District Humorous Speech Contest.
<http://www.theunion.com/news/localnews/13829058-113/schwartz-speech-toastmasters-contest>
- The Sierra Sun newspaper in Truckee, CA highlighted how Area Governor Richard Ludke uses Toastmasters, leadership, and communication when fighting forest fires.
<http://www.tahoedailytribune.com/northshore/nnews/13744380-113/ludke-toastmasters-fire-clubs>
- The Sacramento Business Journal featured LGM Sondra Nunez and a plug for District 39 in their Sacramento Speaker Space Directory.

Philip Williams

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