



Communic~8 District 8



Volume 10, Issue 3

Together We Can!

December 2010



District 8 is on the web

www.dist8tm.org

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A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Lectern ...

By Barbara Kryvko

Fall Conference 2010

More than 120 Toastmasters members descended upon Harrah's Casino and Conference Center for November's District 8 Fall Conference. The theme was "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Lectern..." and a lot of fun and funny things did happen all weekend long!



Friday night started with exciting party games, funny hats and ugly ties. Allen Ross of Speech Masters earned the First Annual Ugly Tie award, all the while proclaiming: "I love this tie!"



Conference Photos by Jerry Chapman



(Continued on page 10)

Thoughts from the District 8 Governor by Tim Spezia, DTM

Toastmasters of District 8, I hope that this time of the year finds everyone in good spirits. We are nearing the half-way point of the Toastmasters year and it is worthwhile for each of us to reflect where we are in our goals as communicators. Are we on track in our communications program? Are we making the kind of progress that we want to make? If we add just a little more effort can we see more progress? At the half way point in the year there is still the opportunity to enhance our learning environments. Your home Toastmasters club has the potential to provide many opportunities to learn not only from each other but also in personal ways. The best lessons are those involving self-discovery that really hit home. These lessons are best because they have personal meaning. For example, when speaking try to incorporate just one item in your speech that was mentioned in your last evaluation. Be aware and discover how powerful one simple idea added to your communication tool box can lead to extraordinary results. This idea may seem simple but applying it may help you to accomplish more in the time you have to present. A seven minute presentation goes by in a flash. This is your time "around the track", your proving ground to see how a new technique can help you as you practice your communications. Try something new and learn from this experience. It is more than just going through the motions of presenting, but actually putting into practice objectives that will help you become an effective communicator. The midyear point is the time to get serious and put your Competent Communicator or advanced speech plan into action. It all starts with you the club member.



Fall Conference

Those of you who attended the Fall Conference saw many examples of how humor conveys and emphasizes meaning in personal communications. From workshop programs, to high level presentations, to the contests, there were plenty of opportunities to learn communications. I want to thank Dawn Tucker and Barbara Kryvko and all the volunteers who helped create a fun and informative Fall Conference.

Mid-Year Reminders:

The TI web site/Online bookstore is temporarily offline for the end of year inventory until January 3. You will not see changes or updates to the education award pages or be able to place bookstore orders until January 3.

If your club elects officers semi-annually, elections should be complete by this time. If your club officers have changed, be sure to register the new officer list at TI for new officers to allow the club officer to receive credit for their service.

Training to be a Judge is being offered on January 8th at 9:30 am at Middendorf- Kreidell library, check with your Area governor for details on this program. (see page 8 for flyer)

Current club officers should plan on attending the district sponsored Toastmasters Leadership Institute on January 22. See the district web site for details on this program.

New DTM's in District 8!

Please help me welcome our newest DTM's:

Stan Veyhl, Terry Calderwood, Lydia Pochedly, Dossie "DJ" Randle

Distinguished Toastmasters, all, these individuals have put a considerable amount of work and effort into this achievement. If you ask them or anyone who has attained DTM, they will tell you it is worth every effort. The lessons learned in accomplishing DTM touch not only the person but also others around them. The guidance provided that helps one or more individuals in becoming more effective communicators is one lesson that stands out. Having this kind of impact on the lives of others is one reason why people become Toastmasters and ultimately attain the highest level of accomplishment and recognition within Toastmasters International. Congratulations to Stan, Terry, Lydia and DJ.

Congratulations to District 8's newest club:

MOCO Torchmasters, Club number: 1588057 Chartered on December 14, 2010 this club comes to us from the campus of Missouri College. They meet on Saturdays. This is a very enthusiastic group who will take their communications and leadership abilities to the next level. This is the first time I have ever seen a case where every club office was contested. That means participation with a capital "P"! Welcome to District 8 Toastmasters!

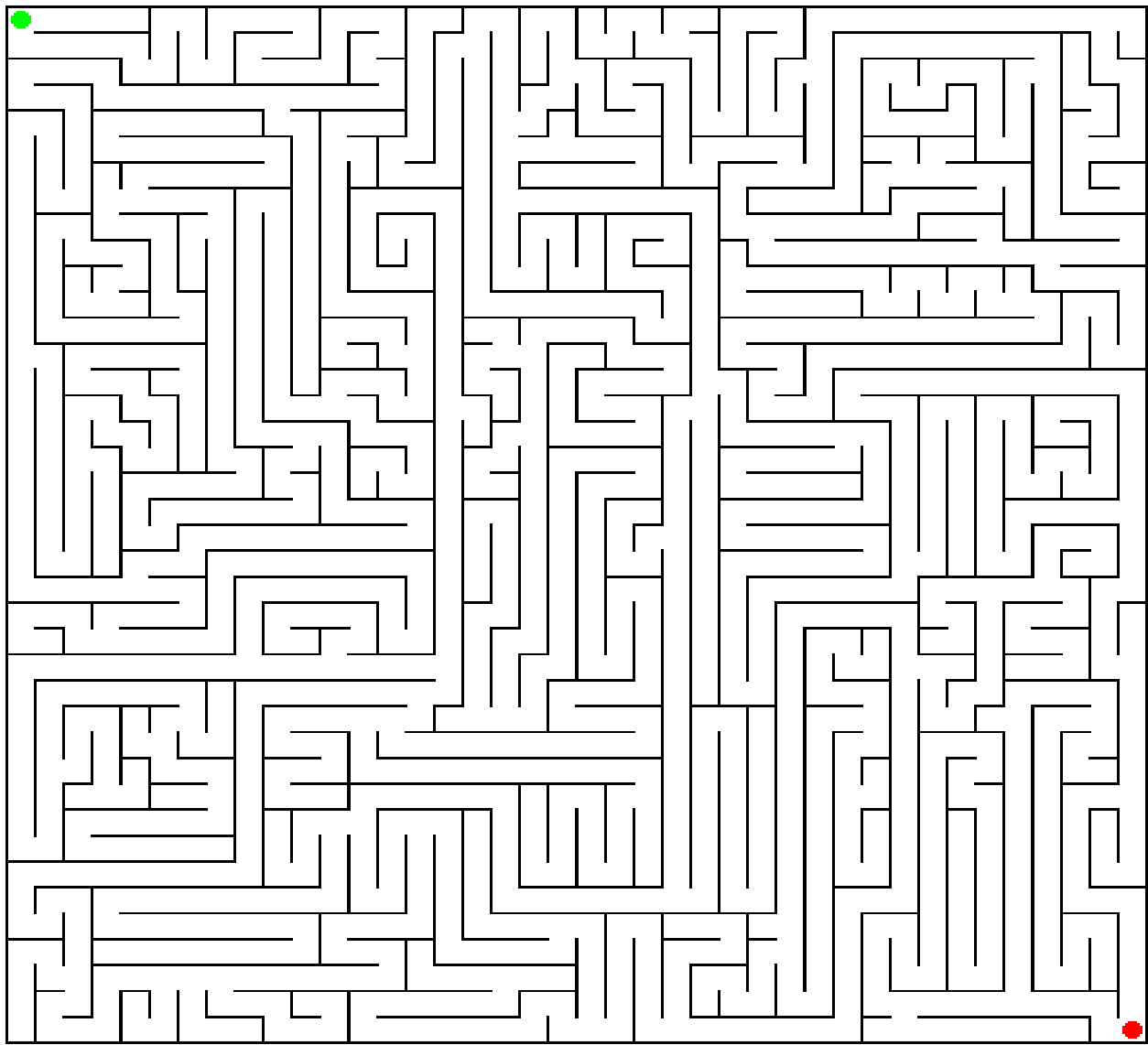
Finally, I want to take this time to wish everyone a joyous Holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! ♦

From your LGET, Tom Coscia, DTM

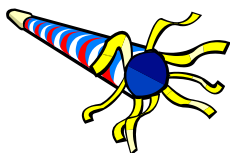


Remember doing these as a kid?
Can you make your way to DTM?
It can be an a-maze-ing journey. Enjoy!

CC



DTM



Message from LGM

By Curtis Scroggins



Happy New Year, fellow Toastmasters! Well, sort of. As you know, our Toastmasters year runs from July 1 to June 30th, so while the rest of the world is celebrating the start of a new year we are actually celebrating the mid-point of the marathon! I hope your goals for 2010 were all accomplished and that you have plenty of challenging goals ahead

of you for 2011. Certainly, some of those goals should involve the area of your life related to Toastmasters. As we round the midpoint of this year, let's look at where we stand as a District in regard to our new clubs and membership goals.

Toastmasters International has set our goal for New Clubs this year to be a net gain of 3. This simply means that we need to end the year having 3 more clubs than we began with. This also means that we must compensate for any Clubs lost during the year by chartering an equivalent number of new clubs so that we may maintain our number of active clubs. This year we have welcomed two new clubs to District 8, Memorial Health System and MOCO Torchmasters and I hope we have more that charter. At this time, we had three Clubs that did not pay dues for the October renewal period. These clubs will be our challenges if we are to maintain momentum. Should these Clubs decide not to renew, we will need to counter those losses with the addition of at least three more clubs. We can do this! If you know of any leads or potential leads, please let me know or filter them up through your Division and we will follow up on them. We do have a lot of potential leads going, but we must keep the pipeline of new leads coming! Thank You!

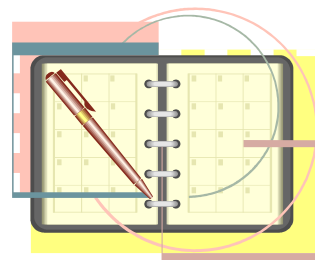
In the area of membership, our goal is 4513 and we have a total of 2133. This is 47% of our total so we are tracking very close to where we want to be, but not quite there.

Membership payments are based on Renewals, new members joining clubs, and new Clubs joining the District. I am confident that we will exceed this number also, but, again, I must ask for your help in this area. Our District has done a great job of having special events, open houses, and conducting great meetings in Clubs that members want to be a part of when they visit. Keep doing that! Also, if you know of any trade shows, special events or opportunities that the District can get involved with that will grant us more exposure, please let us know. Check out the membership building documents posted on our District 8 website at www.dist8tm.org. There are also great membership building ideas available on the Toastmasters International website at www.toastmasters.org. Finally, the next membership building contest sponsored by Toastmasters International will be the "Talk Up Toastmasters" contest, scheduled to run February 1 – March 31. Add five new, dual or reinstated members to your roster between February 1 and March 31 to receive a special "Talk up Toastmasters!" ribbon to display on your club's banner. Membership applications and payment for members who join between February 1 and March 31 must be received at World Headquarters or online no later than March 31. Each member's join date as listed on the application must be no later than March. Transfer and charter members do not count for credit. In addition to the ribbon, qualifying clubs will also earn a special discount code for 10% off their next club order (discount code expires six months from date of issue).

Congratulations on accomplishing your personal goals for 2010 and for what you have done in the current Toastmasters year! Our year is halfway up, but we still have half more to go! I look forward to working with you the rest of this year, as, together, we accomplish the goals we have set before us! **Together We Can!** ♦



Upcoming Toastmasters Events



January

TLI is Saturday, January 22 at Edward Jones

- TLI provides the mandatory training for club officers as well as educational/motivational sessions for all club members.
- This time there will be specialized training sessions. Experienced officers will meet to share best practices. Newly elected officers will have the opportunity to learn about their role and responsibilities. Both 'best practices' and 'basic training' sessions will be available for the major offices.
- Since the needs of community clubs differ from the needs of corporate/closed clubs, there will be sessions geared specifically for both open and closed clubs for the roles of SAA (Sergeant at Arms) and VPPR (Vice President Public Relations).
- As always, officers need to be officially trained to obtain credit toward the Distinguished Club Plan (DCP).
- Bonus: Our Region 5 Marketing Advisor, Bradley Harris, will be presenting an optional afternoon workshop on marketing Toastmasters. All are invited to stay for this dynamic presentation. A light lunch will be provided.
- This TLI will be held at the Edward Jones campus on Manchester Road across the street from the West County Mall in St. Louis County. The east garage and entrance will be open to us for this event.
- Edward Jones has requested the names of attendees. While 'walk ins' will be allowed, we will need you to pre-register for the event. (See separate pre-registration material)

February

Toastmasters at the Working Women Survival Show Feb. 26 and 27th

- Toastmasters will be hosting a session at the Working Women Survival Show on both Feb. 26 and 27th in St. Charles, Missouri.
- Toastmasters is looking for attendance prizes to raffle—Mary Kay baskets, books on communication, gift cards suitable for working women, etc.
- Jeanette Lynch has a blog on the Working Women website (www.wssonline.com). She is touting the benefits of Toastmasters on her blog. Please visit the site and leave her a comment to keep the publicity machine running.

March

St. Patrick's Day parade March 12, 2011

- District 8 Toastmasters will participate in the parade again this year.
- If you want to co-chair this event to meet your DTM goals, contact Jeanette Lynch at 314-757-4334.

April

Spring Conference April 29 and 30th, 2011

- In the Spring Conference, Area contestants for the International Speech Contest will compete and the Evaluation contest will be held.
- The conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown St. Louis.
- Special Guest, George Yen, our International 2nd Vice President, will be flying in from Taiwan to attend our conference. Come meet our 2nd VP. ♦

A special early-bird prize will be given to the Club President whose name is drawn from the pre-registration lists. Get your name with at least four of your club officer/member names in now to be in the drawing. Send your completed form as an attachment to daljml@sbcglobal.net to be eligible for the prize! The winner will be announced at TLI January 22nd!



TLI –Together Let’s Inspire

Where: Edward Jones campus at Manchester and I-270 in St. Louis County—east garage will be open for TLI

When: January 22nd 8 am to noon with optional afternoon session

Why: TLI is now for seasoned officers as well as newer officers with enrichment sessions for every member!

Each major office will have both a best practices session for seasoned officers and a basic training session. We also have sessions geared to community clubs and some geared to closed-membership clubs. This TLI will feature “Motivation to Grow” which discusses all the Toastmaster programs and opportunities on the path to DTM. There will also be two club coaching sessions and a club coaching informational and the TI bookstore.

As a bonus, there is an optional afternoon presentation by Region 5 Marketing Director, Bradley Harris. Mr. Harris will share his information on membership from approximately 12:30 to 3:45. For those who pre-register for this event, a light lunch will be offered. To volunteer or ask questions, contact Jeanette Lynch at daljml@sbcglobal.net.

Club Presidents: please complete this registration form for your club officers/members once you have their confirmations of attendance. Your club will soon receive an email with the agenda and TLI details.

Please Print

Club Name

Club Number

Name	Phone #	Current Office Held	Register for Afternoon?	
_____	(____) _____	_____	Y	N
_____	(____) _____	_____	Y	N
_____	(____) _____	_____	Y	N
_____	(____) _____	_____	Y	N
_____	(____) _____	_____	Y	N
_____	(____) _____	_____	Y	N
_____	(____) _____	_____	Y	N

Other members attending

Register for Afternoon?		Register for Afternoon?	
_____ (____) _____	Y N	_____ (____) _____	Y N
_____ (____) _____	Y N	_____ (____) _____	Y N
_____ (____) _____	Y N	_____ (____) _____	Y N

West Plains Toastmasters Club Receives Banner



By Frank Yates

On October 20, 2010, Dori Drummond attended the West Plains Toastmasters Club meeting to present the banner and charter to Myles Smith, Club President. Cathy Boys, Treasurer, assisted in receiving the banner. Frank Yates, Area 14 Governor, presented Charter Member certificates to the members. The community club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of each month, and includes members from Howell-Oregon Electric Coop, Air-Evac, Missouri State University at West Plains, and the University of Missouri Extension. The West Plains Toastmasters club was chartered on June 19, 2010, and is the most remote club in Division E. West Plains is located 100 miles west of Poplar Bluff and 97 miles south of Rolla. The Banner and Charter presentation was captured on video

at this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yAXLaYuYVWg> ♦

Pres. Myles Smith and Treasurer Cathy Boys display the banner of newly chartered West Plains Toastmasters Club.

Introducing District 8's newest club, MOCO Torchmasters:

by John Barry, DTM, Co-Chair New Club Extension

MOCO Torchmasters chartered on December 14th, just 2 months after the demonstration meeting. The sponsoring organization is Missouri College, an accredited career college offering associates and bachelors degrees in health care and business administration. MOCO is short for Missouri College and the name *Torchmasters* is a derivation of the college logo which features a torch lighting the way.

We knew this club was going to be different by the 2nd meeting when the routine practice of electing officers became a full fledged election with at least 5 members competing for each office. With so many wanting to be a club officer we had each candidate stand and give a campaign speech on why they would be a good fit for the club office being contested. Remember, this is before they had given an icebreaker speech or even participated in a regular meeting.

Their icebreaker speeches showed why these students were not traditional students fresh out of high school and still living at home. Most had experienced early hurdles and challenges in life and overcame them to arrive at MOCO. The club president served 15 years in the Air Force before beginning his college career. Another club officer became a teenage mother and was a grandmother before beginning college at age 45. Another member talked about being asked to leave home while a troubled teen and lived on the streets for years before becoming a born again Christian. Even the staff instructors in the club were not traditional college students and faced hurdles and challenges of their own before completing college and joining the MOCO staff.

The club surprised us by arranging a member led demo meeting for the Saturday students that had missed the original demo and conducted the demo entirely on their own. When we met with the college Associate Dean, he also displayed enthusiasm and explained that as a career college they do not have athletic teams and thus the Toastmaster club serves as an *esprit de corps* initiative involving students and faculty together. Not surprisingly, the college's speech and interpersonal communication instructors are charter members and envision Toastmasters as a great supplement to the classroom courses they already teach.

Raymond Allen is serving as the club mentor and Jacquie Vick and speech instructor Suzanne Lee are the club sponsors. LaVerne Gillespie, Career Services Specialist, was also instrumental in bringing the club to life. Many thanks to the efforts of Curtis and Cynthia Scroggins and to all the volunteer TMs who helped get this club started. Based upon this energetic start, I expect we will be hearing more from this club at the January TLI and in the Spring contests.

District 8 is very pleased to welcome MOCO Torchmasters as our newest club! ♦



Are You Ready for Spring Judging?

District 8, Tom Coscia, LGET & Curtis Scroggins, LGM are sponsoring

Evaluation & International Speech Judges Training

(Back by popular demand & just in time for Area Contests)

9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011

Middendorf-Kredell Branch

2750 Highway K, O'Fallon, Missouri

Same location as the 1/8 12:30 pm DEC Meeting.

Light lunch will be provided for those attending the 12:30 pm DEC meeting.

RSVP Tom by 1/6/11

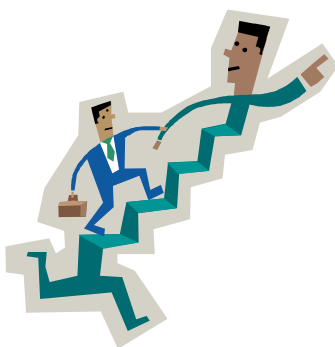
Coscia@peoplepc.com or 314-780-3021

A FEW GOOD LEADERS!!

By Dori Drummond, IPDG, Nominating Committee Chair

While the Marines are looking for a few good men, District 8 is looking for a few good leaders . . . to serve as one of five Division Governors or as the Lieutenant Governor Marketing (LGM) for the 2011-12 Toastmasters year, beginning July 1, 2011.

Service in District office provides not only an excellent opportunity to contribute to this great organization, but the rewards far outweigh the investments of time and energy. As Past District Governor Dan Darnall once said, "Serving as a District Officer for many years has left me subject to a whole host of possibilities. The skills I have learned have helped me to receive several promotions in my job, enabled me to meet many people that I would not have had the opportunity to meet and to build friendships that will last the rest of my life." Ask anyone who has served as a District leader, and they will tell you that District service truly is a memorable experience from which they derived innumerable benefits.



While improving your own skills, District service also affords you the opportunity to assist others in developing their communication and leadership skills. In fact, even greater gratification is derived from mentoring future leaders who will ensure the long-term success of



not only District 8, but more importantly, the success of its members.

Several already have submitted their names for consideration by the Nominating Committee for the Division Governorships. However, additional nominees are welcome, particularly for the offices of Division C Governor and LGM for which no nominations have been received. The LGM serves the entire District by leading the effort to charter new clubs and by assisting existing clubs with membership recruitment and retention. The Division C Governor will work with the Area Governors and clubs in central Illinois, including Quincy, Springfield, Decatur, Effingham, and other cities between the Missouri and Indiana borders.

In accordance with Toastmasters International policy, the work of the Nominating Committee must be completed no later than March 19 (six weeks before the April 30 Spring District Council Meeting). Therefore, self-nominations must be received no later than February 15, 2011. Shortly thereafter, the Nominating Committee will interview all candidates and select those whose names will appear on the ballot at the Spring District Council Meeting. The Committee may select more than one nominee per office. In fact, the Committee will make a special effort to find at least two very well-qualified candidates for the office of Lieutenant Governor Marketing, a position that is crucial to the success of the District.

If you would like to be considered for an office during the 2011-12 Toastmasters year or have any questions pertaining to an office, please e-mail me at djdjd89@yahoo.com or call me at (573) 979-1144 on or before February 15. District 8 is counting on YOU! ♦

More photos from District 8 Fall Conference ...



LGM Curtis Scroggins with Division E Governor Cynthia Scroggins



Nancy Jones with Joe Passanise



LGET Tom Coscia and wife Sue Coscia



Sid Moore

(Continued from page 1)

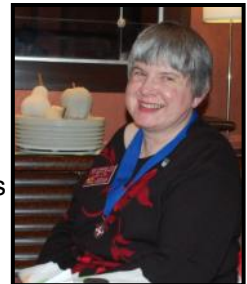


Improv actors from The Improv Trick had everyone in stitches as they performed skits and jokes based on suggestions from the audience. Volunteers Tom Coscia and Bernie Donnelly joined in the fun with the improv troupe.



After a fantastic buffet dinner, it was time for the Table Topics Contest. District 8 members from each Division competed by answering the prompt: "River." We heard about River Dance, Old Man River, and the Mississippi River ... and in the end, Jerry Hoeflein of Park Hills Toastmasters emerged victorious.

Saturday started early with the roasting of the Immediate Past District Governor during breakfast. John Baranzelli of McBrian Lincoln-Douglas Toastmasters started the day right with a very inspiring presentation about the importance of Toastmasters in our lives. Following the business meeting, a presentation of the District's Communication and Leadership Award was made to Sam Silverstein, who urged us to have "No More Excuses!" Lunch in the Voodoo Lounge was accompanied by an enthusiastic speech by Plus Factor's Amin El-Hasan. After lunch, we all scattered to various educational presentations on how to help build better clubs, better speeches, and better lives through Toastmasters.



One of the highlights of the weekend is always the awarding of the new Distinguished Toastmasters (DTM) awards. Three of the four new DTMs (those in attendance at the conference) were honored—Lydia Pochedly, Dossie Randle and Stanley Veyhl.



After a wonderful dinner, Brenda English hosted a hilarious game of "Are You Smarter Than a Toastmaster?" The Humorous Speech Contest followed with five very funny speeches—with one competitor from each Division. The winner was Brenda Knight from River City Toastmasters.



If you attended, we loved seeing you there! If you didn't—you'll have a chance soon to enjoy yourself at a District 8 Conference. Don't miss it! ♦



It's in the Details: Fall Conference Highlights

From John L. Mohr—editor of the Toast Dispatch

Keynote Speaker— John Baranzelli won the District 8 International Speech Contest in 2008 and the District 8 Table Topics Contest in 2007. He is the author of a book *Making Government Great Again*. He has also written numerous articles and white papers about quality management, leadership and the principles of continuous improvement.

As the keynote speaker, John discussed three challenges for the 21st century all of which can be alleviated by Toastmaster training. The first challenge is demonstrated by the ‘Miranda Effect’ where the arrested person hears he has the right to remain silent. This leads into the court of public opinion where we all need to be prepared to speak cogently. Hence, we find that Table Topics provides a safe place to practice for that moment when it is our turn in public.

The second challenge is the ‘Tyranny of Urgency’. Not every e-mail has to be answered instantly. Leaders learn to prioritize. Being an officer at any Toastmaster level provides us with the opportunity to focus on the important things.

The third challenge is the ‘Epidemic of Mediocre Meetings’. Who among us has not been in a meeting with no agenda, no objective and no time control? Every Toastmaster meeting provides practice in planning and keeping the meeting on schedule.

The personal challenge John left us all with is: “Spread the news about Toastmasters!” as it will solve the three challenges of today’s world.

Communication and Leadership Award Winner Sam Silverstein—Entrepreneur, business expert, and international author Sam Silverstein’s battle cry “No More Excuses” has been heard by companies around the world.

Sam stressed **accountability**. To illustrate this he described the dilemma of a personal conflict: his daughter’s high school graduation versus a contracted commitment in Washington DC early the next morning. His solution cost him \$10,000: the price of an overnight

charter aircraft. It was the only way he could keep his commitment to his daughter and to his contract. He was accountable to himself to meet both commitments.

Next Sam emphasized that we need self discipline to live our values. For this he parodied the story of George Washington and the cherry tree. Spin doctors would have offered many versions of George’s response. (e.g., the trunk is standing; therefore I did not chop down the tree). We all know that George accepted the responsibility for his actions. Likewise, we alone are responsible for our choices and the results of our choices.

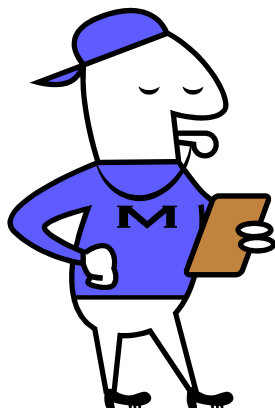
Managing the process was next. To illustrate, Sam told why he bought a painting when he and his wife were just looking. With appropriate questions the painter led them into decision to buy. Questions like which painting do you like best? Where would it look best in your home? The painter managed the process to get the sale. Likewise, we are accountable to manage our processes to achieve our desired result.

Expectations came next on Sam’s list of concerns. He advises a middle road between too easy and too hard. If our expectations are too easy we live down to them. If they are impossible, we will be discouraged. One way to help is to incorporate the experience of others. For example when Missouri Baptist Hospital was trying to improve service for recently discharge patients, they consulted luxury car dealers. Why? They have the best aftermarket service in the business. We can also look to others to set our expectations.

Finally, Sam says we should look to relationships to help us achieve our goals. The key to developing a relationship is to give our time, our money our experience. This allows us to increase our sphere of contributions.

Sam says the momentum towards success is propelled by eliminating excuses and taking personal accountability for choices, actions, and outcome. ♦

Taking the Mystery Out of the Club Coach Program



Invited columnist Joyce Feustel, DTM is the immediate-past District 26 Club Coaching Chair. She was very successful during her two years of service. In her first year, there were 16 clubs with club coaches, and 50% of those clubs became Distinguished or better, with 13 club coaches receiving their leadership credit toward their Advanced Leader Silver award. In the second year, there were 14 clubs with coaches, of which 5 became Distinguished or better, with 8 coaches receiving their leadership credit. She has written many articles about club coaching and is a frequent contributor to the Toastmaster International Members Group on LinkedIn.

Have you heard about the club coach program? Maybe your club has been struggling a bit with the energy level at your meeting or with dwindling numbers of members attending the meetings. Perhaps you have wondered if your club would qualify for a club coach.

A club coach is a Toastmaster from another Toastmasters club who is invited by the coach-eligible club to be of assistance to them. The District Governor or the District Lt. Governor Marketing appoints the club coaches. Each coach-eligible club (12 or fewer members at the time of the appointment) can have up to 2 club coaches appointed to serve the club.

Toastmasters International mails a packet of material to each club coach within 2-3 weeks of the appointment. The packet contains the manual *How to Rebuild a Toastmasters Club*, the publication *How to be a Distinguished Club*, membership applications, information on membership building contests, and the Toastmasters International catalog.

Here are a few other points of interest relative to the club coach program:

- Club coaches serve as guides to the club leadership and to the club as a whole. It is not their role to direct the club, but rather to offer feedback and suggestions.
- There are no requirements to serve as a club coach other than the desire to be of assistance to another club and be a Toastmaster of a club in good standing.
- Area Governors, Division Governors or other district officers are eligible to be club coaches. However, they should be careful to balance their responsibilities as a club coach with the responsibilities of their district office.
- Club coaches can serve up to two years.
- For the club coach to receive credit toward achievement of what is now called the Advanced Leader Silver (ALS) award, the coached club must become Distinguished or higher, i.e. meet at least 5 of the 10 DCP goals, and have a net gain of 5 members.
- Club coaches typically join the club they are coaching, but only after the club coach appointment becomes official.
- Ideally, the club coaches aren't club officers, but they may serve in that capacity.
- Club coaches are encouraged to attend the club's officers meetings. This is a good time for them to give feedback to the club leaders offline from the regular meetings. Also, the coaches can assist with brainstorming ways to grow the club's membership, improve the quality of the meetings (if that is a factor), and address other matters of importance to the club.

Club coaching works. The Apple Polishers Toastmaster Club, once one of the stronger clubs in the western suburbs of Denver, had dwindled to 9 members by the summer of 2007. The leadership of the club asked for a club coach, and two members of a nearby club offered to take on the challenge of coaching this club. Despite encountering some resistance from three long term members, these coaches persevered. By teaming with the president, an experienced Toastmaster albeit relatively new to Apple Polishers, they managed to help this club to right its ship. The meetings became stronger, the officers started meeting on a regular basis, and the club became a magnet for new members. Fast forward to December 2010, and this club is again one of the most vibrant clubs in its division with nearly 30 members.

Club coaching works because coaches help club leaders and members look at their club with a fresh perspective. Since coaches are not wedded to the ways of the past, they are more apt to question the status quo and to challenge the club to try things they hadn't considered attempting before. Besides objectivity and originality, coaches help members envision a successful future. A future with well-attended meetings, productive members who learn, grow and achieve, and a balance among the club's leadership.

HPL: “Where there is vision Projects Prosper”

By Kenny D. Freeman, ACS, ALB

Kenny Freeman, ACS, ALB joined Toastmasters in 1988. He is a member of the Mid-MO Advanced Toastmasters Club, Columbia Toastmasters Club and Downtown Toastmasters Club of Columbia, Missouri. A minister and retired employment and training specialist, Freeman holds a BA in Communications from Columbia College.

A successful effort usually begins with a vision, proceeds with the vision and results from that vision. That is why the Toastmasters International High Performance Leadership Program has each candidate start by envisioning the end of a project before beginning the project.

For me it began with the visualization of more new advanced club members from the pool of community and corporate clubs in the area. In order to accomplish this task the advanced club had to be of greater benefit to those local clubs and their membership. A new question arose - how can the advanced club provide educational opportunities for other area clubs in a manner that would also help those clubs recruit new members? The answer was clear. It was to find a way to promote those area clubs in the community and involve them in the effort.

After weeks of discussion, refinement and with the help of my HPL Guidance Committee, I developed the following vision statement:

"To create a pilot public relations project in which the project coordinator will work with area clubs, volunteer leaders and members of Toastmaster International to plan and implement community service workshops on communication and leadership skills in an effort to increase community awareness and recognition of Toastmasters International as an expert in the field of leadership skills as well as that of public speaking."

The next question was how. Again, there it was in the next step of the project - to write the mission. I have learned that a mission statement is the fundamental cornerstone from which an idea is developed and explained. Even more, the task of writing a mission was like adding depth and color to an otherwise grayscale vision. Suddenly there was energy in the thought that had to be shared with others. I began to believe in what I was writing. It was as if the vision was speaking to me instead of me speaking out the vision. Two weeks of collaboration with the guidance committee later, the mission statement appeared on paper:

"The mission of the Mid-MO Advance Club of Toastmasters International' Communications Columbia Project is to increase community recognition of Toastmasters International as an



(From left to right): Marilyn Mcleod- Reference & Information Director for Daniel Boone Regional Library, Georganne Bowman- President of Downtown Toastmasters Club, Margaret Walker-Capital City Toastmasters Club, Kenny Freeman-Mid MO Advanced Toastmasters Club

expert in the field of communication and leadership through public relations and service oriented presentations from the Toastmasters International Success/Leadership programs, by enhancing the culture of teamwork among clubs, volunteer leaders and members throughout the Columbia, Missouri area. Through the Communications Columbia Project members learn and enhance their communication, leadership, social and public relation skills through the pursuit of measurable goal-oriented event planning and implementation activities – vital skills that promote greater collective effort, cooperation and communication among clubs and members. It is the goal of this public relations project to enhance the quality of life as well as Toastmaster membership for all program and project participants."

As I began to plan the first event, it was clear consistency in location and availability to the public would be paramount to the project's success. The right location would be one in which one could find the right public. It would be a place where people gather who have the desire to better themselves. Again, the answer plainly presented itself, a public library. In the past, I had worked with public libraries

(Continued on page 18)



- Save the Date!! -



50th

O'Fallon Toastmasters Club #994 cordially requests you to...

SAVE THE DATE

April 16, 2011 , 6:00PM
for our

50th Anniversary Dinner

Ramada Inn Fairview Heights, IL

6900 N Illinois Street, Fairview Heights, IL 62208
(I-64 & Route-159, across from St. Clair Mall)
(618) 632-4747

Meal (buffet): Baked Alaskan White Fish, Lemon Herb Chicken, Green Beans Almondine, Tossed Green Salad, Sweet Potato Souffle, and Anniversary Sheet Cake

\$30/person

Inquiries/RSVP to: ofallon-officers@freetoasthost.com or PO Box 254, O'Fallon, IL 62269

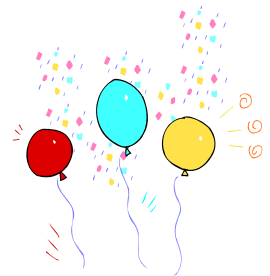
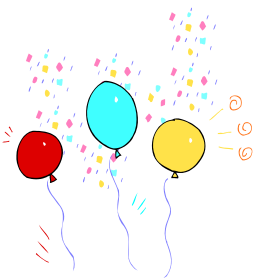
MLD Celebrates 75th with Anniversary Party

March 12, 2011 at 6:00 — 9:00 pm

University of Illinois Springfield

Public Affairs Center Restaurant

Springfield, IL



Spring Conference April 29-30th



District 8 members who have earned Education and Leadership

Awards from October 8, 2010 to December 16, 2010

Division A

Crossroads

- Griffin, Richard—CC
- Miller, Dwayne A.—CL
- Miller, Dwayne A.—ACS
- Patrico, Louis J.—CC
- Scarlett, Charles E.—CC

Franklin County

- Poinsett, Robert—CC

High-Noon Toastmasters Club

- Wayland, Jered Michael—CC

Mastertoasters Club

- Gopalakrishnan, Suresh—ACB

Smooth Talking Toastmasters

- Kenley, Lisa—CL
- Danzer, Delores—CC

Southern Illinois Toastmasters Club

- Cupp, Karen D.—ACG

South County Toastmasters Club

- Flick, Stephen M.—ACS
- Zemann, Laura G.—CL

Speak Easy Toastmasters Club

- Sanborn, Greg Dean—CC
- Darnall, Daniel A.—CL

SPEAK UP! Club

- Darnall, Daniel A.—CC

Twin Rivers WORD Masters

- Rimmey, Michael R.—CC
- Perry, Emma Leona—CC
- Price, Brent Alan—CC

Unigroup Toastmasters Club

- Shields, Bridgid M.—CC
- Holstein, Sheryl—CC

West County Club

- Radnov, Carrie F.—ACS
- Hawkins, Richard—CL

Division B

Creve Coeur Toastmasters Club

- Warren, Cynthia D.—CC
- Warren, Cynthia D.—CL

McCarthy Communication Builders

- Cotter, Jamie—CL
- Kohler Carl, Tammy L—CL

Plus Factor Club

- Blackmon, Cynthia Ellen—CC

River City Toastmasters Club

- Watt, Danette—CL
- Jones, Jacqueline D.—ACB

SALT

- Campbell, Barb—CL

Division C

ADM Toastmasters

- Tolly, Tara Elizabeth—CL
- Jackson, John D.—CL

McBrian Lincoln-Douglas Club

- Randall, Nathaniel H.—ALS
- Wesenberg, David—ACS

Montgomery County Toastmasters

- Rakers, Jacqueline Ann—CC

O'Fallon Toastmasters Club

- Taylor, Glenn L.—ACB

St Clair Club

- Schrauth, Jennifer—CL
- Gouridine, Christopher G.—CC

Division E

Callaway Community

- Clark, Paul—CL

Capital Toastmasters Club

- Sekelsky, Matt M.—CC
- Langston, Art—ACS
- Otto, Paul Robert—CC

- Young, Florence E.—ACB

Downtown Toastmasters

- Freeman, Kenneth Don—ACS

Lincoln University Toastmasters

- Scroggins, Curtis L.—CL
- Scroggins, Curtis L.—ACB

Mid-Mo Advanced Club

- Melloway, Pamela R.—CL
- Melloway, Pamela R.—ALB
- Melloway, Pamela R.—CC

Shelter Insurance Sunrise Club

- Giglio, Michael J.—CC
- Pandey, Vipin—CC
- Hooton, Luke D.—CL

Talu Toastmasters Club

- Lockhart, Jimmie—CC
- Robinson, Maurice—ACG
- Robinson, Maurice—CC
- Lloyd, Gerald D.—CC
- Barber, Lonzo—CL
- Harris, Calvin Lee—ACG
- McIntosh, William T.—CC

Division F

County Communicators Club

- Chrenka, Dan—ACB

F.R.B. Club

- Mueller, Phillip Anthony—ACB

MAC Toastmasters Club

- Moore, Katherine—CC
- Powers, Tim R.—CC

Primary Conversations

- Bowe, Cornelius—CC

SLU Masters Club

- Fortune, Kathleen Marie—CC

Uptick Talkers

- Clothier, Wendy Renee—CC



Jeanette Lynch with Barbara Kryvko
witnessing the 'Ram victory pose'



District 8 "Top 3" - LGET Tom Coscia, Governor
Tim Spezia and LGM Curtis Scroggins



Bernie Donnelly with the Improv troupe ...
strike a "pose"



Toastrasters 20th Anniversary

By Debbie Schirmer, VPPR for Club #7953

Edited by Dan Darnall, DTM



What do **Mark Barbee**, division vice president and COO – Loyalty and Motivation; **Tim Bruins**, senior account executive – Maritz Travel Company; **Sandy Hackenwerth**, division vice president, Process Improvement and Employee Engagement – Loyalty and Motivation; **Donna Kardell**, training and development manager – Maritz Executive Services; **Joe Lodes**, senior account executive – Maritz Travel Company; **MaryBeth McEuen**, division vice president and executive director – The Maritz Institute; **Karen Newberry**, travel buyer – Maritz Travel Company; and **Jordi Prats**, division vice president, Operations – Loyalty and Motivation, have in common? They all were charter members of the first Maritz Toastmasters Club established in 1990.

Mark Barbee, the club's first officially-elected president, remembers a colleague had expressed interest in establishing a Toastmasters Club on the Maritz campus. After receiving approval to pursue the idea, there was a meeting to determine the level of interest from Maritz people. "It was an amazing turnout with 250-300 people!" recalls Mark. "With the large interest, it was decided to move forward with the establishment of the club; however, the question was how do we decide who gets in? We could only take about 30 in the inaugural club. We asked people to put in writing why they wanted to be part of the club. The goal was to have all areas of the company represented, and I was fortunate enough to be chosen and elected as the club's first president."

To celebrate the 20-year milestone, members of the current Maritz Toastmasters Club hosted an open house celebration on November 9, 2010 where eight charter members were recognized. **Steve Maritz**, chairman and CEO, and other members of Maritz executive leadership, plus many friends and supporters of the club were on hand as **Dan Darnall**, director, Quality Assurance – MGTS, and long-time current Maritz Toastmaster, recognized the eight charter members. **Mike Kotur**, coordinator, Production Control – MGTS, and current president of the Maritz Toastmasters Club recognized **Diana Ross**, quality control agent – Maritz Travel Company, for her longevity with the club and presented her with an award as the longest current Maritz Toastmaster, acknowledging her 19 years of outstanding membership.

Mike concluded the program by presenting Steve Maritz with an award honoring Maritz' unwavering support of the Toastmasters Club for the past 20 years. Steve proudly accepted the award and spontaneously led the group in a few rounds of *table topics* – a favorite activity of the club - which helps members increase extemporaneous speaking skills by asking members to speak for one to two minutes about a surprise topic. **Dennis Hummel**, president and COO, participated in the activity and quite ably met the time requirements for *table topics* qualification. Steve added, "Obviously, impromptu speaking skills are extremely valuable and expected in the business world." Steve followed up by thanking the club for its ongoing communication and leadership programs that encourage the further professional development of Maritz people.

Today there are two Toastmasters Clubs on the Maritz campus fulfilling the ever growing needs of Maritz people who are interested in improving their communication and leadership skills through the carefully organized public speaking programs in a safe, friendly, supportive atmosphere.

Maritz Toastmasters Club #7953 - Thursday mornings from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM.(Corporate/Closed Club)

Contact **Mike Kotur**, 636-827-2991, for more information

Speak Easy Toastmasters Club #5585 - Wednesdays from 11:45 AM to 12:45 PM. (Community/Open Club)

Contact **Jeff Kalbac**, 636-827-3530, for more information ♦



Take a look at what you missed if
you missed the Fall Conference.



(Continued from page 13)

to present Toastmaster events and my first club membership was with a library-based Toastmasters Club in Oklahoma City. This idea brought a new dimension to the vision and mission—to pursue a partnership with the community's library. The question then became how to get library officials involved in the project. Thanks to my progress thus far in the project, I already knew how to do it. Before approaching library officials, I visited the library's administrative office and asked for a copy of their mission statement.

The real magic of Toastmasters is using what you have already learned. The ultimate sales pitch for Toastmasters is treating the pitch like an evaluated assignment. I pulled the advanced communications manual on public relations from my library, crafted a presentation using "the persuasive approach" to best appeal to the library's interests using facts from their mission statements, and information about the Toastmasters International success/leadership series. Dark blue suit and briefcase in hand, I approached the presentation as if I would be evaluated by fellow Toastmasters. Three days later the following email arrived from Daniel Boone Regional Library Reference and Information department administrator Marilyn McLeod;

Dear Mr. Freeman,

May I call you Kenny? I spoke with our PR Manager about your proposal and it fits into our goal about lifelong learning. Therefore, we will be happy to work with you and the Toastmasters Club. Thanks again for the opportunity to work with your organization on the leadership series. Our PR manager would like to submit information to the local business newspaper about the series. Do you have the list of topics (and proposed dates) that we could use for this? Or anything that you think might be relevant for publicity?

Thanks so much!

Marilyn

Suddenly the club had an enthusiastic partner contributing to the project. The joint effort had a new name. Mike Miller, a fellow Toastmaster and Vice President- Public Relation for another local Toastmasters Club said "it looks like we have a consortium." Consortium replaced the word project and the cooperative effort is now billed as the "Communications Columbia Consortium: a Community Service of the Columbia Public Library and Mid-MO Advanced Toastmasters Club #9940"

Among the many features of the program, each workshop in the series provides outside club opportunities for any one with the desire to get *Competent Leader Manual Credits* for chairing a club special event, helping to chair a club special event, and other roles similar to those found from week to

week in regular club settings. Workshop presenters can also receive ACG credits for presenting a *success/leadership program*.



Group photo from November Power of Ideas Workshop with Presenter Margaret Walker, DTM

To date, there have been three quarterly workshops presented in which a total of 57 individuals have been participants. Participants have included 15 non Toastmasters, of which two have become new members. Twelve area toastmasters have received Competent Leader Project Manual Credits, two of whom are fulfilling their final requirements for CL certification. Program participants have represented seven clubs, three areas, two divisions and two states within District 8 of Toastmasters International. One indirect accomplishment of the program is that the Downtown Toastmasters Club, who hosted two of the last three workshops, has enjoyed 14 new memberships in the past two months since the most recent workshop. These workshops keep the names of local clubs constantly in public light and the publicity is ongoing. From the end of one workshop the next workshop is already being promoted.

It is not enough that we have succeeded. My project only called for presenting three workshops, but you don't throw away a good thing that's working. You measure your progress, look for ways to improve the program and continue the work for the benefit of others. The library has asked for an agenda of quarterly workshops that extends through February 2012. And so the program continues.

Twentieth century activist and Zionist leader Stephen S. Wise said "vision looks upward and becomes duty, outward and becomes aspiration, inward and becomes faith." Through the vision and mission statement phase of this High Performance Leadership Project I began with just an idea. Through vision it has become my mission and I believe it what I am doing. ♦

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

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Communications and Leadership
Together We Can!
Achieve Greatness Together!

District 8 is on the web.
www.dist8tm.org

Want to receive the next e-Communic~8 in your inbox? Make sure your email is current on Toastmasters International website.

Letter from the Editor

Hello District 8 Toastmasters,

It is that time once again where we flip to a new calendar, reflect on the year just past and look forward to the new year. Looking forward into 2011 plans for the Communic~8 include having more from the District 8 leaders, more news and upcoming events, educational and informational articles as well as continued recognition of the District 8 members who achieve education and leadership awards.

The next issue will be the "paper" version in advance of the Spring Conference. We will have details about the upcoming conference and highlights from the TLI. We will also have another Club Coaching article. If you have items you wish included the deadline for submissions will be February 19th.

This is your district newsletter, please share your ideas for articles, your news, your Toastmasters event photos and share any suggestions to continue to improve as we move forward. Thanks for your continued help to Achieve Greatness Together!

Joann York, ACB ALB
Email: j_york71@hotmail.com

Upcoming Events

Go to the District 8 website calendar www.dist8tm.org to stay up to date on District 8 Events!

Officer Training—(2nd Period) December—February

DEC Meeting and Judges Training—January 8

Winter TLI—January 22

• *Early bird TLI registration prize (see registration form for details)*

Working Women's Survival Show—Feb 25, 26 & 27th

McBrian Lincoln-Douglas 75th Anniversary—March 12

St Patrick's Day Parade—will you be on the march? - March 12th

O'Fallon Toastmasters 50th Anniversary Party—April 16

District 8 Spring Conference—April 29-30 — Crowne Plaza, St Louis, MO

Summer TLI—June 25

For specific date/time/location details on upcoming District Events—check out the "Calendar" link on the District's website.