

DISTRICT 8

Communic~8

District 8 News And Events

Volume 15 Issue 1

District 8

July 2015

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"Whatever your grade or position, if you know how and when to speak, and when to remain silent, your chances of real success are proportionately increased."

Dr. Ralph C. Smedley

Save the Date:
Fall Conference

Nov. 13—14
Visit from TI 2nd VP

Summer TLI — Success!

By Rosalind Early, CL — TLI Chair

The Summer Toastmasters Leadership Institute on June 20, welcomed more than 200 Toastmasters from all over District 8 to Washington University's Seigle Hall for a day of leadership and speech training. Hosted by the Washington University Toastmaster's club WUSTL Speaks, with help from fellow Wash. U. club Toast of WU, the event included officer training sessions and nine educational sessions, plus two training seminars for area and district officers.

Steven Malter kicked off the event with his excellent keynote "Leadership, Innovation and Management." He helped the audience define leadership and talked about how to encourage innovation, how to get people to listen to you, and how to lead as an introvert. The standing-room-only crowd was invited to participate in the speech by suggesting topics and brainstorming leadership traits and skills.

"Always be innovating," Malter told the audience. Companies and people need to be willing to change or risk falling behind. He also told participants to not be afraid to fail. "Just fail fast," he added with a laugh. When you realize something has failed, don't drag out the failure for additional years, get out, learn from your mistakes, and move on to your next project. Don't let failure stop you or define you.

After getting inspired, people headed to break out sessions. The day included seminars on The Art of Staying



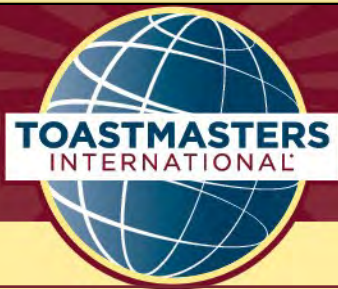
Motivated, Effective Evaluations, How to Prepare for a TED Talk, Broadcasting and Toastmasters, The Art of Storytelling, Talk Tech Better and more.

The event proved to me, yet again, that TLI is one of the great benefits of being in Toastmasters. You can learn from people who have been there, network with fellow Toastmasters, learn about best practices, and get a bite to eat, all at no cost.

My team and I would like to thank Mark Bagby from Toast of WU, who hosted the winter TLI and served as our conference mentor. We'd also like to thank Farzana Chohan, then Lieutenant Governor Education and Training who also served as a conference mentor.

As TLI chair, I would like to thank my club, WUSTL Speaks, for its support. Many club members helped with hosting by leading sessions and volunteering. Though we only chartered last year, we have tackled great leadership challenges and always have each other's back. I would like to give particular thanks to my TLI team, Cecily Stewart-Hawksworth, Shirley Ikemeier, Josh Lawrence, and Thomas Walker. All of whom were motivated, dedicated and did a great job putting on a TLI to remember. ♦

(More TLI photos inside this issue)



District Director Message

Farzana Chohan, DTM

District 8 Director

EMAIL: dd@dist8tm.org

District Eight Enhancement Program—DEEP!

Greetings! Fellow members,

We have embarked upon the journey for TM year 2015-2016. This is a very significant year for our District, as it happens only once in 75 years that a District gets to celebrate its 75th birthday. We are proud and humbled to be of that Diamond age. It marks the positive contribution, character and strength of District 8 members helping Toastmasters International grow throughout the world in its 90 years history. As our District reached its "Diamond" age of 75, we will cherish this moment by incorporating this theme in our conferences, events, and activities throughout the year. We will call this year the "D8 Diamond Jubilee".



I would like to share my vision for District 8 this year with all of you. My vision works aptly as an acronym, **DEEP** - **D**istrict **E**ight (8) **E**nhancement **P**rogram. Our goal is "To Enhance the Visibility of District 8 in the region." We want to be the first choice provider for dynamic, high-value, experiential communication and leadership skill development **(Inspired by Toastmasters International Envisioned Future)*. This vision will become possible with the help of talented and enthusiastic team members in our leadership team. Our year long endeavor will be focused on enhancing

- (a) Community engagement utilizing multiple streams of marketing, public relations, the speakers bureau and corporate relations programs to engage and attract community, corporate, professional and business entities to District 8; and
- (b) Members engagement by providing opportunities for communication and leadership through various events and activities.

Remember the saying of Dr. Ralph Smedley, "We learn in moments of enjoyment." As I reflect back on how and why we are still here both as a District and as a global organization, it directly corresponds to that basic human aspiration for self-development and enhancing our strengths on a daily basis. Make this a positive, fun, learning and growing experience not only for yourself, but also fellow members who are looking to develop their skills in a positive environment.

I look forward to your support and participation to make this a great year for our District 8. We can deepen our mark not only in our region but also in the Toastmasters International community. **Go D8! ♦**





Program Quality Director Message

Jacquie Vick, DTM

Program Quality Director

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Fair and Equitable

It's CONTESTS time! As you prepare as a speech contestant, functionary, or spectator, what should you know? Know the contest process, rules, and available resources. Know that the contests are not just for Toastmasters, it's an event that is open to the public. This is a great opportunity to show the benefits and brand of Toastmasters at this signature event. What should you expect? Expect fair and equitable contests, and expect to learn and be entertained.

Contest Process, Rules, and Resources

No need to guess, visit the district's website at www.dist8tm.org. Under *Useful Resources*, left bar, scroll down to and click on *Contest & Judging*. Here you will find contest scripts, a contest planning grid and checklist, contest forms, certificates, a judge's training PowerPoint presentation, a link to *When You're the Judge* video training posted on the Toastmasters International's website, and the Speech Contest Rulebook.

The Speech Contest Rulebook is a powerful resource; it's your contest bible. While it is not necessary for you to know it verbatim, it is important for you to be familiar with its contents so that you can find the answer to any question or situation that may occur before, during, and/or after the contests.

The contest season will kick-off at the club level, so here are a few questions/answers to get you and especially contest chairs and judges in the right frame of mind.

Q. What makes for a quality speech contest?

- A. Well-trained contest chairs and judges, planning, interesting speeches, suitable location, and Toastmasters branded materials from the virtual brand portal (www.toastmasters.org/vbp)

Q. What should the contest chair order for all contest speakers?

- A. Certificates of Participation

Q. Can you produce awards for contestant winners?

- A. You are welcome to use outside vendors to produce awards, however you **cannot** use the Toastmasters logo or the words "Toastmasters" or "Toastmasters International" on speech contest awards not purchased from World Headquarters as it is a trademark violation.

Q. Where should the chief judge tell the contest judges to sit? Why?

- A. Close to the contest area in case of outside disturbance or a malfunctioning technical system.

Q. What event must a contestant attend before the contest?

- A. Contestant's Briefing

The answers to these questions and many more are found in the Speech Contest Rulebook. Please use it.

Now, it's the season for the Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests ... Come for the laughs and stay for the fun ... Let the Contests begin! ♦

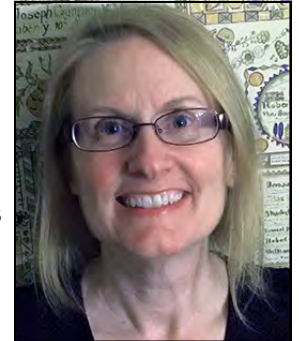




Club Growth Director Message

Kat Mokriakow, DTM

Club Growth Director
EMAIL: cgd@dist8tm.org



Looking Forward to a Stellar Year!

Welcome everyone to a new Toastmaster year. This is an exciting time to be a part of District 8 as we celebrate 75 years as a district. As each club looks back at how the past year went and whether or not their goals were met or gained new members-remember this Toastmaster year is new with no mistakes in it. At this point, you may be asking 'what does that mean?' I would like to share what that means to me. If you find the past year didn't go as well as planned, do not allow that to color how this Toastmaster year will go. You have a clean slate to set new goals, create a strong club building program, and attract new members. The choice to make a difference is in your hands.

As the new Club Growth Director, it is my responsibility to assist clubs in increasing membership and to build new clubs. Look for exciting ideas and opportunities to come your way in the near future. I will be working closely with Camesha Hill-Carter Public Relations Manager, John Barry Club Extension Chair, and the Club Growth Committee. As a team, we will be working to bring membership building activities and new clubs to District 8. Also offering Club Coach assistance if clubs would like help to bring their club back to distinguished strength.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve in any of the roles below, please contact me by email @ katmokriakow@dist8tm.org or call me at 636-352-3840:

- **Serve on the Club Growth Committee.** I am looking for representation from all divisions.
- **Serve as a club coach, mentor, or sponsor.** There are approximately 33 clubs that qualify for a club coach. If interested, I will share what each position requires so you can make the best choice.
- **Serve on the demonstration team.** This team demo's a 'mini' Toastmasters meeting to allow prospective guests in seeing for themselves if Toastmasters is right for them and establish a new club for their company or community.
- **Have an idea for a prospective club?** If your company has at least 200 people and can support a Toastmasters club and doesn't currently have one or if you know of a place in the community where a club can be formed, I would like to hear about.

It takes many hands to make a district a success. It is my sincerest hope that many are willing and able to share in the upcoming events. Check out the Public Relations page for more details. Looking forward to a successful year!

Club Growth Director Vision:

To strengthen the core of District 8 by increasing membership in current clubs and to new club expansion.



The Power of Trust

Dr. Camesha Hill—Carter—Public Relations Manager

If they trust you, they will come. Explicably a knock off taken from the 1989 film *Field of Dreams*, but holds true to what we, as Toastmasters, do on an everyday basis — communicate and lead effectively while building relationships that foster trust. In this case, one must ask the question, “Why does a person join Toastmaster’s?” People join Toastmasters through people they trust.



As adults, we have a caliber of uniqueness that draws a set standard of individuals to our realm of influence. In that, we have built a distinct level of trustworthiness for our life. Let’s look at the last person you told about Toastmasters. As you were telling the person about your club, did you have that excitement? Did you explain the culture of the club? Did you tell them you did not know where you would be without Toastmasters? Did the person say that he or she knew that there was something different about you? In that conversation, trust was established enough that you and the other person felt vested to share and give. That is the quintessential hallmark of trust.

Invariably, we think it is influence that brings a person to Toastmasters, but in all reality it is the power of trust. Trust is the one thing that we as toastmasters can leverage to build our clubs. We are genuine people, who honestly want to build others to become the best communicators and leaders in the world.

This year in District 8, I want you to feel empowered to use your power of trust to build your clubs. I want you to have conversations with friends, family and colleagues about what you experience in Toastmasters. I want you to inspire people through your conversations about the change you have experienced through Toastmasters. As you tell about your journey of tragedies and triumphs through toastmasters, you will build trust and they will come.

On the horizon:

District 8 VPPR Conference Call – For all clubs VPPR

Monday, August 3, 2015 7pm

Conference Call information will be emailed.

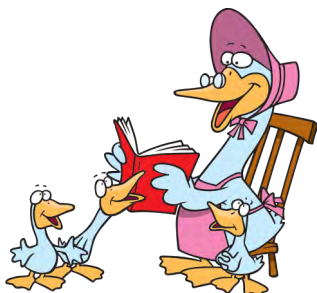
Each One Reach One –Membership Drive

August 1 – October 31

Starting August 1, District 8 will begin its membership drive contest. Each club is asked to participate. Fabulous awards and prizes will be given to those clubs who recruits the most new members. There are 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place prizes that will be awarded. More information coming soon!

Celebration of Story-Storytelling Event

Date: TBA



Calling all storytellers! Calling all storytellers! District 8 will be hosting a Storytelling event. This event will showcase the phenomenal talent in District 8. This event is free and open to the public. In addition, we will have an author’s pavilion. If you are a current member in District 8 and have written a book, we would like you to participate. We are also looking for club sponsors. If interested in participating in any of the above please email me at Camesha@comeshacarter.com. ♦



WELCOME Division Directors

**Division A Director — Dr. Larry Kimbrow, ACS/ALB**

larry.kimbrow@gmail.com

I feel very humbled and honored to be the newly-elected division director. I am certainly excited to be supporting our new District 8 Leaders and their appointed committee chairs and staff. The other four division directors and I have met and immediately formed an excellent rapport. Each of the other divisions is lucky to have them this year.

My overall goals this year are to fully support the vision, mission and goals of Toastmasters International and District 8. My specific goals are to help each of my Area Directors (2, 4, 5 and 9) in their quest to enable their assigned clubs and club members achieve their personal and professional goals through participation in Toastmasters. Please remember: If I do not know the answer to your question, I will find the answer quickly and accurately. What I lack in Toastmaster's knowledge, I make up for with enthusiasm and determination. ♦

**Division B Director — Bridgette Wesley, DTM**

bridgettewesley@ymail.com

Warmest greetings fellow Toastmasters in Division B and around District 8. As the 2015—2016 year kicks off to its start, I am excited to jump in and get to the work at hand of making sure the members of Division B clubs have a quality Toastmasters' experience and the Division achieves growth. In order to accomplish this goal, I will need the support of each of the Area Directors, club officers and club members to ensure that we are all leading by example. This year, and beyond, we must continually strive towards creating club environments that are inviting, empowering club members to achieve their goals and spreading our passion for helping others to learn and grow in Toastmasters. Working together, we can achieve a bright vision for Division B! ♦

**Division C Director — James L. Childress, CC**

jamesrvp@yahoo.com

I am very honored to have the privilege of serving in the role of Division Director. It will be a wonderful experience to learn and grow with high quality members in our district.

My mindset of being a leader is to be a servant-leader. The member's needs come first and if the member is not successful then the district is not successful. As stated in the District Leadership Handbook, "Members are the heart and foundation of Toastmasters International." I am looking forward to serving in one of the best districts in Toastmasters International. ♦

Welcome



Division E Director — Jean Craft

jean.craft@gmail.com

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts. ~ Winston Churchill

My challenge to myself is to enjoy the journey I will travel during my time as Division E Director. My challenge to all of the Toastmasters in “my posse” is to have fun learning and growing with me. We will all start out as amateurs, and we will end the year as seasoned professionals with wisdom to pass on to the ‘newbies’ who come after us. While I know that wisdom is gained through experience, and experience is gained through mistakes (sigh), I still believe we can have fun this year if we admit that we are not perfect; we will make mistakes. IT IS OKAY. Most importantly, it is okay to make those mistakes because we will learn from them.

We will work together with all of the Toastmasters in Division E like a big happy Toastmaster family. If we see that someone needs help, we will reach out to help them. If we need help, we will not be too ashamed or too prideful to ask for help. If we see someone achieve their goals, we will acknowledge their victory because they are part of our family, and we are happy for them. Let us encourage each other to do our very best.

KEEP CALM AND TOASTMASTER ON! ♦



Division F Director — Pierre A. Smith

pierresmithrn@aol.com

Greetings all from Pierre Smith your Division F Director. I'm so excited about the start of 2015—2016 Toastmasters' year here in District 8. I would like for us to have a really successful year. We have an awesome team of Area Directors, club officers and members so we will work together to make sure every club is on track to becoming/ maintaining the Distinguished Club status. With that said, we have a lot of work to do. The Area Directors will be notifying all club presidents of the date and time for the make-up session for officers that missed the TLI training in June. I am encouraging all Area Directors to help implement the “Moments of Truth” program with the help of club presidents' and VPE's. I feel this will help us to achieve our goals for the year. Look forward to visiting the clubs and meeting all of you soon. So let's get fired up and have a great Toastmasters year in District 8. ♦

**Area
Directors
2015-2016**

A



2—Parasuram Ananthram



4—Somnath Bhattacharya

5



9—Rebecca Now

B



3—Yutuka Ikeda



13— Stuart Welter

16



18—Donna Troy



20—Will Hayden

C



1—Rick Maxwell



6—Raymond Stratton



10—Don Smith



11—Lemont Curry

E



7—Erin Tucker



14— Shawn Sisco

21

F



8—Mark Wisbey



12—Mark Strothmann



15—Rob Bingham



17—Jackie Lorraine



19 - Phil Hayes

Summer TLI Photos

The TLI Team







District 8 Members Earn Education & Leadership Awards from June 17, 2015—June 30, 2015



Division A

Crossroads

- Woodard, Marlyn A.—CC
- Clutts, Michael—CL
- Harris, Maura O.—CC
- Stanze, Arthur E.—ACB

UniGroup Toastmasters Club

- Fabian, Rafael A.—CC

Division B

Little Hills Toastmasters

- Coffey, Jesse D.—CC

St Charles County Toastmasters Club

- Oliva, Michael J.—ACB
- Tucker, Dawn Stone—ACB

Toast of the Fleet

- Obrecht, Heather Nicole—ACB

WeiDon Toast Club

- Darnall, Daniel A.—CL

Wry Toastmasters—A Specialty Club Focusing on Humor!

- Calmese, Vickie D.—CC

WWT-HQ Toastmasters

- Apel, Sherry—CC
- Nambiar, Nikhil Madhu—CL
- Nambiar, Nikhil Madhu—ACB
- Taylor, Roxann Rae—CC
- Taylor, Roxann Rae—CL

Division C

Collinsville Toastmasters Club

- Rasche, Valerie M.—ACG
- Watson, Tawanna T.—CC
- Beeler, Matt—CC

Horace Mann Toastmasters

- Closter, Don—CC

Division E

Courage to Grow Toastmasters Club

- Mateu-Mora, Venustiano—ALB
- Deomellis, Corina—CC
- Deomellis, Corina—CL

Downtown Toastmasters

- Unger, Jane—CC
- Lacy-Anderson, Debbie—ACB

Shelter Insurance Toastmasters

- Cayce, Daniel J.—CC

Talu Toastmasters Club

- Lockhart, Jimmie—LDREXC
- Meade, William Wayne—LDREXC

Division F

Grand Center Club

- Keeton, Rosetta—ACG

Midtown Clayton Toastmasters Club

- Wilson, Rosemary—ACG

Primary Conversations

- Sanders, Daniel—CC

Toast of WU

- Bagby, Mark P.—CC

Torchmasters

- Glenn, LaTunija R.—CL

Triton Toastmasters, #3229713 Inducts New Officers in Officer Induction Ceremony

New officers for the 2015—2016 year were inducted in special ceremony on July 2, 2015. *Left to Right:* Laura Patterson, Audra Gall, Laura Erzen, Ann Larsen, Ron Gosseen, Meg Naes, Nichelle Hunter, Melinda McEndarfer (missing: Peter Banholzer)



DCP Goals:

At least 4 club officers trained in each training period.

Right now is the first training period.

Your club could have 1/2 a DCP goal if your officers received their training.

If not, get to a “make-up” training session.

Does your club have a Distinguished Club Program Plan for this year?

Start your path to a successful year for your club, get planning now.

Who will earn their awards this year?

Do you have a plan to recruit members?

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

Kat Mokriakow, DTM—Club Growth Director

Editor: Joann York, DTM

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

**WHERE LEADERS
ARE MADE**



The Mission of District 8

We build new clubs and support all clubs
in achieving excellence.



We Want YOU!

Interested in becoming a dual member in an
Advanced Club?

Capital T Toastmasters

is looking for you!

Meets: Second Friday of the month
7:00 pm

Location: Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church
921 Edgar Road, Webster Groves, MO 63119

Contact: Tom Coscia coscia@peoplepc.com

Requirement: Member of another Toastmasters club and have
Competent Communicator (CC) designation

Be a part of the past and the future of D8!

Become a member of ...

Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club

Seeking the past, current and future D8 leaders

Purpose: We celebrate our D8 connection to Founder
Dr. Ralph Smedley and work to build, support
and encourage D8 leaders.

Meets: Once a month, usually in connection with D8
meetings or other events.

Website: <http://4115.toastmastersclubs.org/>

Contact: Joann York j_york71@hotmail.com

We Want YOU!

District 8 Calendar of Events

Aug. 1st — Sept. 30th "Smedley Award" Membership Contest

September 11, 2015 Deadline for Issue 2 Communic~8 Submissions

October 20, 2015 Deadline for Issue 3 Communic~8 Submissions

Nov. 13—14, 2015 District 8 Fall Conference,
Doubletree Hotel, Chesterfield, MO

****TI 2nd Vice President will be in attendance****