



E-Communic~8 District 8



Volume 9, Issue 8

June 2010

5 Steps to Toastmasters Excellence

1. **Make it fun**
2. **Actively work together**
3. **Genuinely show interest**
4. **Improve yourself and others**
5. **Communicate**



Add it up and it spells MAGIC!

www.toastmasters.org/Members/SpotlightArticles/MAGIC.aspx

RACE TO THE FINISH LINE!

By District 8 Governor Dori Drummond, DTM



District 8 is in a race to be Distinguished three years in a row—a race that we will win! We are making great progress toward completing our goals. Two months ago we needed 869 membership payments to be Distinguished. Today we need 172 payments—a gain of nearly 700 payments in only two months!

As of the writing of this article, there are 25 days left in the Toastmasters year. Notwithstanding the tremendous progress made, there still is MUCH work to be done. We will charter more new Clubs, but we also want to ensure that our existing Clubs achieve their goals. We are striving for a minimum of 60

Distinguished Clubs and 15 Distinguished Areas. Both goals are very realistic if we continue to focus upon the goals of our Clubs and their members.

The primary challenge for most Clubs always has been and continues to be membership. Membership recruitment is an ongoing process that must continue year-round because every Club experiences turnover for a variety of reasons. However, there are two key dates in determining if a Club has enough members to be Distinguished—July 1 (when a Club's membership base is determined) and June 30 (the last day of the Toastmasters year). For a Club to have enough members to be Distinguished, on June 30, 2010 the Club must have 20 paid members (excluding transfer members) OR a net growth of 5 members compared to the number of paid members that it had on July 1, 2009 (whichever number is less—20 or a net growth of 5).

In order to be Distinguished, a Club MUST meet this membership requirement in addition to achieving a minimum of five (5) Distinguished Club Program (DCP) points. If a Club can achieve the membership requirement and earn a minimum of seven (7) DCP points, it will be Select Distinguished; if it can earn at least nine (9) DCP points, it will be President's Distinguished—the highest honor that a Club can achieve! As of this date, District 8 already has 9 Distinguished Clubs, 15 Select Distinguished Clubs, and 7 President's Distinguished Clubs. But many more Clubs will achieve these honors as they continue to recruit more members and as their current members continue to meet their personal educational goals.

What is your Club doing to ensure that it meets its membership goal and that your members have the opportunity to complete their educational goals by June 30? Are you holding an open house or some other special event to draw potential new members AND those members who did not pay their April renewals? Have you considered a Speak-a-Thon during one of your regular meetings (in which the only

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The Education and Training Corner

By Tim Spezia, DTM, Lt Governor Education and Training



Fellow District 8 Toastmasters, rather than mention the current Toastmasters year is winding down or what a great year it has been, I will point out this year was and the coming Toastmasters' year (which starts July 1) promises to be exciting and rewarding district times. We had two excellent District Conferences this past year with high member attendance and comments indicating they were both powerful learning experiences. With the help of fantastic volunteers at the conferences, they were able to live up to our high expectations to motivate and stimulate communication and leadership activities beyond the club environment. Additionally, we had two well-attended Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) sessions meant to help club officers and those aspiring to be club officers learn how they can create strong club environments through leadership.

We have attained many of our District's educational goals for Competent Communicators and Advanced Communicators. However, for the district to excel we need more of our members to achieve their personal goals. Remember my comment from an earlier article, if 1% of our club members achieve a CC we would see over 200 CCs in the district; we are not quite to 200 currently. There is still time to achieve this CC goal this year. If you are close to completing a CC, go ahead finish it before June 30. Do not hold yourself back from an accomplishment and attempt to achieve less or delay. I encourage everyone not to hold back club members. In order to have a successful club environment, the "Learn by Doing" format of the Toastmasters International organization helps members to reach their next level of personal development. Your education or leadership award is the recognition of the work you have done. Each award builds on the previous and helps to position you to continue your momentum toward your next year of achievement and personal growth.

Training at the June TLI

A strong executive team leads a strong club. How does a team of officers develop? Does it just happen? Like any personal endeavor, to master an activity requires practice and study. A good club officer is constantly working to improve their knowledge through practice and learning. Your training as club officers is one goal that can be easily achieved for your club's DCP (Distinguished Club Program) success plan. I challenge every club in District 8 to send all seven 2010-2011 officers to the TLI training on June 26, 2010. Everyone can learn something new by attending and picking up new ideas on club leadership. Be sure to visit the district web site to learn more about our upcoming TLI.

Thanks for your help

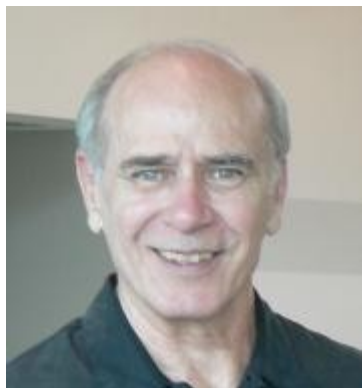
I want to thank the many district volunteers who came forward this year to help create great learning opportunities and wonderful dynamic communication and leadership development events. As a district, we are committed to helping our members achieve the most from Toastmasters and your efforts are clear evidence of this commitment.

Together We Can

As your next District Governor, my commitment is to create a truly enlightening and stimulating learning environment throughout the district. As I speak with the incoming Area Governors and DEC members, I detect real enthusiasm for the work they are preparing to do. I ask every new club officer to work closely with their Area Governor to take your club to the next achievement level. This in turn will help your club members to experience the best personal development possible. The individual club member's achievements are ultimately, how our district's success will be measured at the end of this year and the next. As the member succeeds, so shall the district. ☀

News from the Lt. Governor Marketing

John Barry, DTM



The New Clubs Pipeline Report:

During the past several monthly reports to the District Executive Committee and Council I have been reporting that the new clubs pipeline was *bursting* with prospective clubs. I am pleased to report that the clubs are chartering in a *surge* towards the end of the fiscal year. Five new clubs chartered in May and another six clubs could charter by year end, June 30th.

Could District 8 actually charter 16 clubs during a fiscal year? Well, at press time, it appears very possible. Thanks to all the help from each Division throughout the year. It truly has been a team effort since each Division has at least one new club. We proclaimed at the beginning of the year it would be a team effort and it has paid off in new clubs and the accompanying growth in membership.

District 8 welcomes the following new clubs chartered during this fiscal year:

<u>New Clubs Chartered:</u>	<u>Charter date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Orators Harrah's	07/02/2009	Earth City, MO
Commerce Bank	08/21/2009	Clayton, MO
Montgomery County	10/01/2009	Hillsboro, IL
Business Professionals (BizPro)	03/09/2010	Swansea, IL
Rockmasters (COTR)	03/31/2010	St. Peters, MO
Lincoln University	05/03/2010	Jefferson City, MO
ADM	05/14/2010	Decatur, IL
Moneta Group	05/25/2010	Clayton, MO
Shalom Church	05/26/2010	Florissant, MO
City of St. Peters	05/27/2010	St. Peters, MO,
Silgan Plastics	pending at TI	Chesterfield, MO
Franklin County	pending at TI	Washington, MO
State Farm Bank	pending at TI	Earth City, MO

In addition, the following clubs are on the bubble with a very good chance to charter before year end, June 30th:

<u>Clubs on the Bubble</u>	<u>Expected Charter</u>	<u>Location</u>
West Plains Chamber Commerce	06/20/2010	West Plains, MO
Memorial Health Systems	06/30/2010	Springfield, IL
Horace Mann Company	06/30/2010	Springfield, IL
Girl Scouts	06/30/2010	Maryland Heights, MO

There are another half dozen prospective clubs that are meeting regularly and could break out of the pack and charter in the near future, so don't be concerned if your prospective club is not listed above.

Membership Report:

New clubs generate membership, but new members are only half of the challenge. A bigger challenge is maintaining the members already active in clubs. Retention is a priority and the District team has been promoting retention right from the start. Even during a tough economy Toastmasters has been growing and at press time, District 8 needs only 172 new or reinstated members to achieve our goal on membership growth. The DEC leaders are beating the drums loudly as we march towards year end, June 30th.

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Planning Is Everything ...

Tony Gartner, MBA, DTM—Immediate Past District Governor



Thousands of words have been written about plans and planning. Numerous famous quotes have originated about this necessary but daunting subject. The title of this article is partly taken from a quotation of General – President Dwight D. Eisenhower who stated, “Planning is everything; the plan is nothing”. Winston Churchill on this subject said, “Plans are of little importance, but planning is essential.” Now stretch that theme into a Toastmasters District scenario where the main elements are change, change, change! Districts throughout the world are in a constant state of flux. We change the majority of officers and support positions at least yearly and in some cases, at the Club level, every six months. It seems the concept of ‘Long Range Planning’ for Districts like us cannot be the same as business organizations who can think in terms of five or ten year plans. Our planning must be tempered by our organizational structure and our necessary adherence to Toastmaster International policies and procedures. In effect our planning tends to be more strategic – “the conduct of drafting, implementing and evaluating cross-functional decisions that will enable an organization to achieve its long-term objectives” - than long range (Wikipedia definition).

Once a plan is formulated, action becomes the watchword. In ‘Demonstration Meetings’ and in the startup of new clubs most of us stress that in Toastmasters “we learn to do by doing” and there is no one place where that is more important than in planning and working the plan.

Our method of planning is based on the “District Success Plan,” formulated over time by Toastmasters International. One of the first responsibilities and exercises when we begin a new Toastmasters’ year is to begin work on the District Success Plan. Remember that author Steven Covey wrote; “Start with the end in mind”! The end we have in mind is to have a Distinguished District “vis-à-vis Toastmasters International” even though I must admit that my tendency is to “Aim for perfection . . .” in the form of President’s Distinguished status. Toastmasters International provides a template to assist us in getting the planning started.

The following is excerpted from **DISTRICT SUCCESS PLAN – Toastmasters International**

District success is measured by whether the district is Distinguished at year-end.

Many factors contribute to achieving Distinguished District. One of the most important is planning. Becoming a Distinguished District doesn't just happen: It requires a systematic approach to achieving the district mission. The District Success Plan serves as the **strategic plan** for your district leadership year and is also a guide for other district leaders.

The District Success Plan requires strategic thinking and planning by district leaders. The plan identifies specific goals the district needs to achieve in order to become a Distinguished District. The planning process includes establishing timelines, assigning responsibility, determining financial and other resource needs, tracking progress and making adjustments when needed.

The planning process not only identifies what the district must do in order to be Distinguished, it builds trust, opens communication and keeps district team members focused. The district Trio are responsible for producing the District Success Plan, but the planning process should not be limited to just these officers. Ask division and area governors for input and for their commitment to achieve President’s, Select or Distinguished Division/Area goals.

Distinguished District Program:

World Headquarters calculates the points earned in the program. The points are based upon achieving and exceeding the four goals plus achievements in the other three areas for a total of 7 point categories.

A district must submit a District Success Plan Matrix and Training Report (with a minimum of 85% of area governors

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Meet Your 2010-11 District 8 Governor Tim Spezia, DTM



Tim joined Toastmasters in 2001 and has completed four CC's. Tim earned his DTM in 2007.

Tim has served as Area Governor (2006-2007). He has served District 8 as District Treasurer (2007-2008); as District LG-Marketing (2008-2009); and as the District LG-Education & Training (2009-2010).

He worked closely with the Fall 2009 Conference and the Spring 2010 Conference events.

Favorite Toastmaster Project:

Active Listening Workshop

Favorite Toastmasters Meeting Role:

Speaker

Favorite Club Office:

VP of Education ☀

Meet Your 2010-11 LGET Tom Coscia, DTM



Tom Coscia, joined Toastmasters in 1996 and earned his DTM three times. In addition to be recognized as a Star CTM, Tom completed all 15 advanced manuals and has served as an Area Governor, Division Governor, and the 1999 Fall District Conference Chair.

Having staffed many district conferences in various capacities from presenter, to fun night chair, to contest master and facilities chair, Tom has attended four Regional Conferences, two International Conventions, and has served two terms as District Conference Site Chair, two terms as District Policy Chair, two terms as District Audit Chair, two terms as District Hotline Chair, and is currently completing his second term as District Treasurer.

He was instrumental in seeing the district purchase professional sound equipment and microphones. He has saved the district thousands of dollars and many man-hours by migrating the Communic-8 printing and mailing to a cheaper and more automated printer.

Tom is also a member of 2 clubs: Capital T, which is an advanced club and he is a charter member of Wry, which is a specialty club focusing on humor.

Tom is looking forward to serving the district as LGET beginning July 1st. ☀

Meet Your 2010-11 LGM Curtis Scroggins



Curtis Scroggins joined Toastmasters in 2002 in Austin, TX, the Austintatious Toastmasters. He became a member of Capital 503 Toastmasters in 2004. Curtis has been a Volunteer in Corrections (VIC) at Jefferson City Correctional Center (JCCC), the former prisoners' toastmasters club and currently the Alpha II Gavel Club for the past four years. The JCCC club was the first prisoners' toastmasters club in the entire World. Club roles he has served in are Sergeant-At-Arms, Treasurer, Secretary and President. He has filled District positions as Area 7 Governor and Division E Governor and is currently in his second term as the District's Division E Governor. He is also a member of the Columbia Advanced Toastmasters Club.

First time as Club President he achieved President's Distinguished. First time as Area Governor he achieved President's Distinguished. First time as Division Governor he achieved President's Distinguished and is President's Distinguished for the second consecutive year as Division E Governor.

Presently, he is a member and co-sponsor of the Lincoln University Toastmasters Club, which chartered in May, 2010. Curtis holds a Competent Communicator in Toastmasters and is working on his Competent Leader and Advanced Communicator Bronze. His goal is to achieve his Distinguished Toastmasters by the 2011 Fall Conference. ☀

Snapshots From the Spring Conference



Toastmasters Leadership Institute
Toastmasters Achieving Success Together

District 8 TLI
Saturday, June 26, 2010
Registration 7:45 AM
Opening Session 8:30 AM

Hyland Education and Training Center
St. Anthony's Medical Center
10020 Kennerly Road
St. Louis, MO 63128

What is TLI?

Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) is presented by Districts to provide the knowledge and tools club officers will need to keep their clubs healthy and successful. Trained club officers can bring about more satisfied members, more exciting club meetings, more new members, more Distinguished Clubs and more Distinguished Districts.

- TLI:
- jump starts new officers in their positions
 - provides valuable training and advice
 - is one of the goals in the Distinguished Club Program (DCP).
 - is a requirement for recognition as Advanced Leader Bronze (ALB)

Why attend TLI?

As a leader, you will learn valuable skills and tools to make your job easier and more successful. TLI provides the perfect environment for you to improve your understanding of how the club officers work together to achieve club success goals and grow future club leaders. Getting outside your club and meeting other Toastmasters allows you an opportunity to network and gain new ideas, and to find inspiration, innovation, instruction and know-how. Prepared and equipped, you can better serve the members of your club.

Who should attend?

Officers holding a one-year (July-June) term must attend both the June-August and December-February training sessions to receive DCP training credit. TLI is also open to all Toastmasters interested in further development of their leadership skills. It provides an opportunity to attend fantastic training on specific club offices and topics of interest to the entire club administration. Toastmasters thinking about taking on an office are invited to sit in on training for that office to see what is expected.

How Much Does It Cost?

FREE! Did we mention that you not only get continental breakfast and entertaining educational sessions but that it costs you absolutely nothing to attend?

Who Can I Contact If I Have Additional Questions?

Tom Ahillen @ (314) 843-3327, Robin Anderson @ (314) 623-5977
JuneTLI2010@yahoo.com

How Do I Register?

To allow for adequate seating and materials, pre-registration is highly recommended.

Please return registration form **E-mail:** JuneTLI2010@yahoo.com , **Fax** to (618) 798-3853

Mail: 4326 Portland Lake Dr., Florissant, MO 63034

Toastmasters Achieving Success Together

Saturday, June 26, 2010

7:45 AM Registration Begins

8:30 AM Program Begins

LOCATION:

Hyland Educational & Training Center
St. Anthony's Medical Center
10020 Kennerly Road
St. Louis, MO 63128

Toastmasters Leadership Institute**Toastmasters Officer Training and Educational Enrichment**
D
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8
OFFICER TRAINING SESSIONS

- PRESIDENT
- VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION
- VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP
- VICE PRESIDENT, PUBLIC RELATIONS
- SECRETARY
- TREASURER
- SERGEANT AT ARMS

ENRICHMENT SESSIONS

- ATTRACTING NEW MEMBERS TO YOUR CLUB
- CHARTING A COURSE FOR CLUB SUCCESS
- MOTIVATING ACHIEVEMENT

Please return registration form to Robin Anderson via **E-mail:** JuneTLI2010@yahoo.com, **Fax** to (618) 798-3853, or
Mail: 4326 Portland Lake Dr., Florissant, MO 63034

Contacts: **Tom Ahillen** @ (314) 843-3327, **Robin Anderson** @ (314) 623-5977,
JuneTLI2010@yahoo.com

Club Name: _____**Number:** _____

Please fill in name of club officers attending:

Other Club Members Attending:

President: _____

VP-Education: _____

VP-Membership: _____

VP-Public Relations: _____

Treasurer: _____

Secretary: _____

Sergeant at Arms: _____

Toastmasters Leadership Institute
Toastmasters Achieving Success Together
 June 26, 2010
Agenda

Time	Training Session	Speaker
8:30	Keynote Address <i>"Snapshots of Success"</i>	Jacquie Vick, ACS, ALB
9:00	Welcome/Awards	Dori Drummond, District Governor Tim Spezia, Lt. Governor Education & Training/District Governor Elect
9:30	Treasurer	Dale Lancaster, ATMS
	Vice President, Public Relations	Kathy Diehl
	<i>Attracting New Members to Your Club - How to Build Membership</i>	Daryl Sutphen, DTM
10:30	Vice President, Membership	Rhonda Gray, CC
	Sergeant at Arms	Steven Hand, DTM
	Vice President, Education	Jacqueline Jones, CC
	<i>Charting a Course for Club Success - the Distinguished Club Program</i>	Paul Cook, ACS, ALB
11:30	President	John Murphy, DTM
	Secretary	Carole Breckner, DTM
	<i>Motivating Achievement – Toastmasters Opportunities for Growth</i>	Jeanette Lynch, ACS

It's Time for the DTM Line!

By Joann York, ACB ALB

At this Spring Conference like each conference, a special ceremony requests those with DTMs (Distinguished Toastmasters) in attendance to stand and form a line to officially welcome the new DTM's to their ranks. One by one each new DTM or new 'repeat' DTM award earner is called forward to receive their DTM medallion and they make their way down the line receiving congratulations, handshakes and hugs. I asked the new recipients to share their thoughts on their achievement for all of us yet to achieve this award or those thinking about earning another.

For Todd Austin this DTM award is, he said, "just my first." It was an achievement 15 years in the making. Todd said, "I've learned a lot along the way, as far as improving both my communication and leadership skills. It reminds me of the old Confucian saying that 'It's not the destination, but the journey!'" Slow, but persistent. He says "I guess I'd be the tortoise, not the hare." Asked how much he enjoyed joining the other DTM's in the DTM line. He said, "it was a wonderful experience. I'm just glad I didn't cry. Ever since my first D8 Conference 14-1/2 years ago, I've always thought that going through the DTM line would be totally awesome. And it was!"



Division C Governor Randy Lanning
with new DTM Todd Austin

In contrast, for Robert 'Bob' Gergen this was his second time down the line. Bob said this one took "longer than my first." He worked for another because there was "the addition to the leadership track and to have a High Performance Leadership (HPL) project that was not a Toastmasters task/event." How has the achievement benefited Bob? He said, "Toastmasters helps me to define who I really am by speaking about my values, helping others grow and find encouragement when things around them are not always rosey." What is in achieving a DTM for others? "Often others cannot see themselves accomplishing something that they haven't seen done by someone they know. We can help with their believability." They can "introduce Toastmasters benefits to other members and people unaware of our dual tracks." As

to the DTM line, he said, "I enjoy more greeting new members to the DTM line, especially if I have influenced their journey."



Bob Gergen being congratulated as he goes through the DTM line.



Cindy Hoeflein, DTM and Jerry Hoeflein

Receiving her medallion and walking the DTM line for the first time was Cindy Hoeflein. Cindy said, "Receiving my DTM meant that I belong to a special group of Toastmasters. It is a group of people that have all had the same challenge with the same goal at the end." Waiting in the

DTM line to welcome her to the special group was her biggest supporter and mentor her husband Jerry Hoeflein. I asked Cindy to explain how the achievement provided benefit to her, her answer she gained "more confidence in what [she does] within Toastmasters and in [her] daily life." It took Cindy 5-1/2 years to earn her DTM. The hardest challenge for her was the mentoring, sponsoring a new club or coaching a club because of her "rural" area location. I asked Cindy what she believed is in the achievement of a DTM for others? She responded, "Knowing that YOU did it! YOU made it all the way to the top!!! You met all of the challenges and YOU did it!!!" Then, once you earn that DTM and join the others proceeding down the congratulatory line how does that feel, Cindy said "AWESOME!"



A portion of the DTM (left to right) Randy Lanning, Dale Fitzpatrick, Todd Austin, Cindy Hoeflein, Jennifer Merritt and Daryl Sutphen

With his wife Pam in attendance, Daryl Sutphen stepped up to receive his first DTM medallion and the congratulations for his achievement. Daryl joined toastmasters in 1994 it was a long journey with a number of mentors helping him to this celebratory day.

Before the conference, the District 8 Governor had asked each award recipient to submit a few details about their steps to the DTM achievement. Jennifer Merritt who also achieved her first DTM award, had a long list of those she thanked for their assistance as she worked toward this special achievement. The list included her "wonderful loving husband Gary and sons Nick and James for all of the time they allowed [her] to dedicate to pursuing this award." Jennifer had a number of toastmasters she wanted to thank for their specific efforts to name a few from her list—Bob

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Awards Presentations



1st Place Evaluation Contest—John Murphy



1st Place International Speech—Jef Williams



3rd Place Evaluation Contest—Bob Gergen



2nd Place Evaluation Contest—David Mallory



Toastmaster of the Year Joann York



Retired Toastmaster of the Year Robert Blattman



Columbia Toastmasters President's Distinguished
2001-2010



3rd Place Int'l Speech—
Ramesh Chandrani



Division Governor of the Year Curtis Scroggins



Area Governors of the Year Dossie Randle and Raymond Allen



Division Governor of the Year Kathryn Mokriakow

“Dreams Take Flight”

The Rebuilding of Plus Factor Toastmasters Club #1229

By John Murphy and Lora Mather



The Plus Factor Toastmaster Club was founded in 1953. For many years the experienced members of the club maintained a high level of excellence: the club met the needs of the members and the members achieved numerous awards. The club spent several decades at the top, however, every club experiences a life cycle. Plus Factor began a downward slide when it lost its regular meeting location at the Mid-County Library in Clayton, MO. In the subsequent years, the club wandered to many different locations, attendance dropped, the educational program fell apart and guests failed to join the club.

The club rebuilding process begins with an assessment. Plus Factor had a small group of 3-4 active, enthusiastic members overwhelmed with responsibilities intended for a club of twenty people. A past member still had the club's treasury materials. The club's website contained misleading, inaccurate information. They met at different locations. Moreover, their low membership made them feel bad.

We immediately addressed some basic problems: we reacquired the treasury materials, updated the website and found a permanent meeting location. Then to rebuild the enthusiasm of the club, we developed a three-part plan: conduct exciting workshops, visit strong clubs and mentor our new members. To conduct exciting workshops, we invited outstanding Toastmasters from nearby clubs to present topics related to communication and leadership. Because our club lacked a public relations officer, we developed a one member, one task public relations campaign. The workshop organizer gave informative flyers to our members and asked them to promote the workshop to one group or organization. We enjoyed workshops such as Unstoppable Confidence, Elevator Speeches and Mental Flexibility. To further build enthusiasm, we scheduled debates with other clubs. Our members loved the well-attended debates and the challenge of listening, thinking and speaking in a new environment. As a result of these efforts, new members joined the club. To maintain their enthusiasm and quickly integrate the new members, we began a mentoring program. We credit our mentors for the retention of 100% of our members in this 2009-2010 Toastmaster year.

Our combined efforts will make Plus Factor a Distinguished Club—the first time in five years. Beyond the award, we feel a wonderful sense of accomplishment. We especially thank our past and present members, our workshop presenters, our sister clubs and our district leaders. A famous Chinese proverb says: “True gold fears no fire.” Similarly, saving low-membership clubs from extinction is the ultimate test of Toastmaster communication and leadership skills. Currently, there are 32 clubs in our district with 12 or fewer members. This represents a wonderful opportunity to test your Toastmaster skills. To begin, please contact John Murphy, Club Coach Chair at johnmurphy74@yahoo.com or (314) 707-0073 today. ☀

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Gergen, Lydia Pochedly, Barbara Kryvko, Dawn Tucker, Partha, John Barry, Tony Gartner, Dori Drummond, Tom Coscia, and Bob Blattman. Jennifer went on to give “thanks to all of the additional toastmasters that contributed to my success by providing wonderful examples and helping me when I called on them for volunteering their time and talents to contests, projects, speeches which directly contributed to success. I worked really, really hard for this achievement and can now say ladies and gentlemen, I Jennifer Merritt have arrived!” As District 8's Governor Dori Drummond finished reading this statement the room applauded and Jennifer proudly stepped forward to have the Lt. Governor Education & Training Tim Spezia place the coveted DTM medallion around her neck and then to make the special walk of celebration to join the “DTM” club.



Hugs, applause, smiles of pride on the faces of those receiving the DTM award and those in the “line” who were proud to add them to the “special group” of toastmasters. The Distinguished Toastmaster award is the culmination of the communication and leadership tracks. As Jennifer said this achievement is “really, really hard” but as all the award recipients shared it is a journey well worth taking. Now the important question: When will we celebrate your achievement? ☀

MLD Celebrates George Myers

By John Baranzelli

Photos submitted by Eileen Kluckman



MLD club members (Front row left to right) Don Bricker, Rose Armond, George Myers, Eileen Kluckman, Shipra Somani (second row left to right) Larry Coleman, Lynn Wilson, Rachel Hasenyager, Chad Haffer, and Nate Randall

On April 29, 2010 members of McBrian Lincoln Douglas Toastmasters gathered at the University of Illinois at Springfield to honor George Myers. George first joined McBrian Lincoln Douglas Toastmasters in the mid 1950's and has been championing the cause of Toastmasters to men and women all around the country ever since. Wherever he happens to be – an airport, a farm field or a restaurant – George always finds a way to inject the subject of Toastmasters to people he meets. Filled with optimism and humility, George always manages to bring out the best in everyone he meets. In so many ways, he is the embodiment of the principles contained in the Toastmaster's Promise.

John Baranzelli was the Master of Ceremonies for the program and

began the festivities by introducing Dale Fitzpatrick. Dale roasted the man of the hour by recanting many humorous stories about George from their friendship formed in the Smedley Memorial Toastmasters club in Waverly, Illinois.

After Dale's speech, a special session of Table Topics was conducted to allow members of the club to express their appreciation to George for the difference he has made in their lives. Each story was unique but all of them contained a common theme: encouragement. As each member spoke it became clear that George's legacy to the club has been hope. Several members said that the positive comments George had for them after their first speech gave them the confidence to return to the podium. Many club members stated that George's encouragement and excitement about Toastmasters was the deciding factor in their decision to join the club.



George Myers & Dale Fitzpatrick



MLD President Don Bricker presenting George Myers with award

After Table Topics were completed, McBrian Lincoln Douglas Club President Don Bricker presented a plaque to George commemorating his many years of service to McBrian Lincoln Douglas Toastmasters and Toastmasters International. Don was the driving force behind the recognition program and made all the arrangements with the University of Illinois at Springfield to host the event.

After the presentation, Don relinquished control of the podium to the man of the hour and George finished the meeting with a rousing call to action for Toastmasters everywhere. George reminded us that the world is in a state of constant change and that communication and leadership skills are more important than ever. George believes that Toastmasters provides an opportunity to hone those skills while connecting with some incredibly gifted people. The program

concluded shortly afterwards and as can be expected at every meeting of McBrian Lincoln Douglas Toastmasters, George stayed around long after the meeting was over to offer encouragement and support to the club's many members.

George Myers is truly a role model for Toastmasters everywhere. As he reminded the members of McBrian Lincoln Douglas during a speech at a recent meeting "live in the present and hope for the future." So long as George Myers is a member of McBrian Lincoln Douglas Toastmasters, we will always have hope for the future. ☼



George Myers with award



*District 8 members earning
Education and Leadership
Awards from March 20, 2010
to June 11, 2010.*

Division A

Crossroads

- Clark, Becka—ACB
- Mernin, Todd—CC

Jeffco Challengers Club

- Link, Elizabeth M.—CL
- Link, Elizabeth M.—ALB

Maritz Club

- Kotur, Michael T.—CC
- Miller, Dawn C.—ACB

Maryville Toastmasters

- Taylor, Sharon—CC

Parkland Area Toastmasters

- Hoeflein, Cindy L.—ACG
- Hoeflein, Cindy L.—DTM
- Hoeflein, Cindy L.—CL
- Cooper, Larry T.—CL
- Cooper, Larry T.—ACB

Smooth Talking Toastmasters

- Lancaster, Jay—CC

South County Toastmasters Club

- Kutell, Adam Henry—CC

Southern Illinois Toastmasters Club

- Rose, Jennifer—CC
- Rose, Jennifer—CL

Speak Easy Toastmasters

- Darnall, Daniel A.—CC

SPEAK UP! Club

- Bean, John Mark—CL

Twin Rivers WORD Masters

- Morrissey, Debra M.—ACG
- Roth, Dennis A.—ACB
- Edouard, Patricia Jane—CC
- Bueltmann, Kevin John—CC
- McCurren, James Kean—CL
- Roth, Eileen Rivera—ACB
- Warren, Roy B.—CL
- Rehmer, Debra C.—CL
- Morrissey, Debra M.—CC
- Morrissey, Ralph P.—ACG

Unigroup Toastmasters Club

- Vollmer, Susan—ACB
- Purdy, Rebecca—CC
- Garrett, Barbara J.—CC

West County Club

- Gerber, Alan—CC

Division B

Aerospace Orators Club

- Randle, Dossie—ACG

Alton Toastmasters

- Mills, Jeremy C.—CL

Bulls & Bears Club

- Dusek, Jana M.—CC
- Boley, Susan—ACB

Cave Springs Toastmasters

- Donnelly, Bernard—ALB
- Dickason, Kathy—ACB
- Dickason, Kathy—CL

Creve Coeur Toastmasters Club

- Kardis, Sandra M.—ACG
- Mehta, Persis—CC
- LaFlam, Nadia—CC
- Carpenter, Charles N.—CC

Earth City Tranemaster Club

- Smith, Ginalyn Tugus—CL
- Smith, Ginalyn Tugus—ALB

General Motor Mouths Toastmasters

- Sosa, Rachel—CC
- Brockman, Neil—CL

Mastertoasters Club

- Krause, Scott—CC

Orator's Club Harrah's St Louis TM

- Broeckling, Jamie—CC
- Huey, Cara J.—CC
- Ruder, Aileen—CL

Plus Factor Club

- Murphy, John T.—ACB

SALT

- Oestereich, Chris A.—ALB

Script Masters Club

- Reid, Peter J.—ACB
- Mokriakow, Kathryn G—CC
- Oatis, Angela Y.—CC

St Charles County Toastmasters Club

- Grissom, Marty—CL

Division C

Capital City Toastmasters

- Holt-Swanson, Megan E.—CC

- Swanson, Gregory J.—CC

- Rankin, Sue M.—CC

Collinsville Club

- Upperman, Bruce—CC
- Donovan, Thomas P.—CL
- Donovan, Thomas P.—ACG

League of Our Own Toastmasters

- Woods, Sandra L.—CL

Scott Toastmasters Club

- Williams, Jeffrey A.—ACS

Springfield Parkway Point Toastmasters

- Booker, Debora A.—CC
- Boateng, Clifford—CC

Toastmasters Business Professionals

- Caravia, Phillip A.—CC
- Martin, Kevin—CC

Division E

Callaway Community

- Thompson, Arthur Scott—CL
- Campbell, Jimmie—CC
- Pitchilyn, Demetrius—CC
- Adisa, Ahmad J.—ACB
- Swinson, Christopher—CC
- Johnson, Christopher—CC
- Clark, Russell—CC
- Hardy, Charles—CC

Courage to Grow Toastmasters Club

- Stevenson, Mary E.—CC
- Burns, Tammy—ALB
- Hinshaw, Michelle—ACB

Downtown Toastmasters

- Kohnle, Sarah—CL

Good Neighbor Toastmasters Club

- Bennett, Nicholas Barton—CC
- Crawford, Dorrie M.—CC
- Burkhardt, Karen Lee—ACB
- Burkhardt, Karen Lee—CL
- Connell, Amy K.—CC

Shelter Insurance Sunrise Club

- Kuhar, Jason D.—CL

Talu Toastmasters Club

- Courtney, Jimmy H.—CC
- Harris, Calvin Lee—ACS
- Robinson, Maurice—ACS

(Continued on page 17)

A Case For Dual Membership

Dale R. Fitzpatrick, DTM

The subject of my pitch today could apply to any active Toastmaster. However, I am especially directing my comments to those Toastmasters who may be nearing today's retirement age of 50 years or older. I was about 50 when I became a dual member about 25 years ago. I was finishing my first term as Division C Governor, the final rung on the ladder to receiving the DTM designation. At that time, I joined the Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club, formed in memory of Dr. Ralph Smedley, our founder. While I joined the club primarily because Waverly was my hometown as well as that of Dr. Smedley, membership in the Club has greatly broadened my Toastmasters experience.

In my home club, Lord Effingham Toastmasters in Effingham, Illinois, I have the distinction of being the only charter member still active in that club, which chartered in June 1981. My two clubs are similar--both follow the advice of Dr. Smedley to "keep things simple" and to "have fun." I consider them strong points for both clubs.

As "seasoned Toastmasters," we have so much to offer. We also need to get out and have fun as often as possible. The president of Lord Effingham Toastmasters, Lois Hartke, said recently, "I may be tired and depressed when I come to a meeting, but I always leave happy." I, too, find that Toastmasters meetings "uplift the spirit." A speaker at a recent Toastmasters conference told how laughter causes the body to produce interferon, a hormone strengthening the body. Wouldn't it be great to get two doses of interferon per

week and still be safe driving home from the meeting? A dual membership can provide this advantage.

Toastmasters is a great way to 'work your mind' to prevent memory loss and increase mental fitness. I go to the gym about three times per week to exercise my body. My dual membership in Toastmasters helps my brain keep up with my body.

I have a job where I work 30 to 40 hours per week and can retire any time I please. Many in our age group are thinking about retirement. I know I have been thinking about it for 15 years, and one of these days I may do it. Those of us belonging to a corporate club may want to think about finding a community club to continue our Toastmasters experience. It is not too early to look for a club near our home to transfer our membership.

I hope that my story of dual membership in these two clubs for nearly a quarter of a century will cause a few other "seasoned Toastmasters" to consider joining a second club. By doing so, you will be able to share advice on successful practices in your home club, to make new acquaintances, and may even pick up some new ideas to take back to your home Club. Dual membership has countless advantages—what are you waiting for? ☀



(Continued from page 3)

- Will District 8 close the membership gap and be a Distinguished District 3 years in a row and thus achieve the *Excellence in Leadership* award?
- Will District 8 close the membership gap and charter the prospective clubs on the bubble and reach *Presidents Distinguished* or *Select Distinguished*?
- We still have 3 weeks to finish the year strong and all of the above are possible.

Word of Appreciation:

Since this is the last Communic~8 newsletter of the year, I want to thank Dori and Tim, the District Executive Committee, the District Council and every club member for the tremendous support and cooperation I received throughout the year. It has been a real privilege to serve as Lt. Governor Marketing and I have enjoyed it immensely. Although I chose not to be a candidate for any elected district office at this time, I will be available and willing to serve the District in any way I can. Thanks for the opportunity to serve as your LGM.

John Barry, DTM, LGM ☀

How low can you go?



Friday night "fun" included an impromptu limbo contest.

These photos prove Toastmasters are down for any challenge.

A few contestants remained in with a little help from their friends.

Lower and lower the stick went until only two remained, Cathy Babis (the sling didn't slow her down) and Wendy Clothier.



(Continued from page 4)

and division governors trained) to be eligible for Distinguished District recognition.

Point Measurement Categories:

I. District Growth:

A. Net District Membership Growth (Membership Payments)

B. Net Club Growth

II. Educational Accomplishments:

A. Competent Communicator Awards

B. Advanced Communicator Awards

III. Distinguished Club, Distinguished Area and Leadership Award Performance:

A. Distinguished Club Program 10 points max

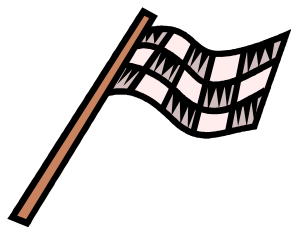
B. Distinguished Area Program 10 points max

C. Leadership Awards 10 points max

The six districts with the largest number of points are recognized as President's Distinguished Districts, and the next six districts are recognized as Select Distinguished Districts.

In summary, a district should excel in all 7 of the measurement categories to score the maximum points.

In order to be successful we must review the District Success Plan frequently. Evaluating progress is essential. Even the most alert leadership cannot produce a planning document and then expect it to be used without regular updating and review. Planning and following up on all aspects of the well known Who, What, When, Where, Why and How questions that we all know so well keep us working on the planning phase even while we are in the implementation mode, the most important phase. The regrettable part of putting "The Plan" out of sight in a drawer or file cabinet which is done often is why President Eisenhower said. "Planning is everything, the plan is nothing". We are on our way to our third consecutive year of achieving Distinguished District; let's move forward with renewed vigor and confidence. ☀



Race to the Finish

(Continued from page 1)

item on the agenda is prepared manual speeches) so that some of your members can complete their Competent Communicator or Advanced Communicator Award? Have members been scheduled for the few remaining roles that they need to complete their Competent Leadership Manual?

If your Club would like some support in meeting its goals by June 30, please do not hesitate to call upon the same people who have been here for you all year long ... the District Trio (John, Tim and me) and especially your Area Governor. Here's to a strong finish as you Cre-8 Your Own Destiny ... ☀

(Continued from page 14)

Division F

Anheuser-Busch Club

- Moore, Danny H.—CL
- Desrosiers, Kevin M.—CL
- Eulberg, Joseph J.—ACS
- Moore, Danny H.—ACG

BJC Toastmasters

- Chambers, Angela—CL

F.R.B. Club

- Wafford, Danny Armstead—CC

Free Speakers

- Calhoun, Lawson H.—ALB
- Veyhl, Stanley G.—ALS
- Veyhl, Stanley G.—DTM

MAC Toastmasters Club

- Bauer, Nick E.—CC

Midtown Clayton Toastmasters Club

- Aubuchon, Mark S.—ACB

Primary Conversations

- Boyd, Michael—CC
- Hamilton, Deborah—ACB
- Jones, Armita Kyee—CC

Rent-A-Toast Club

- Fotouhi, David F.—ACB
- Balraj, Anita—CC

Sigma-Aldrich Toastmasters Club

- Porter, Richard W.—ACB
- Robert, Jaime—CC

SLU Masters Club

- Clark, Jane Dawson—CC
- Dutemple, John I.—ACB
- MacAdam, Margaret—CC

Solae Toastmasters Club

- Rolan, Terry—ACB

Voices in Unity Club

- Kaiser, Max S.—ACG



Do you want to dance?



We answered that question with
a resounding ...YES!!

Dance, Dance, Dance ...

Boogie-woogie ...

Shake, Rattle and Roll...





We were lucky enough to have the professional services of a local DJ and a Toastmaster himself, Matthew Stevens (above on right) of Stevens DJ Service playing the tunes to move us to the beat with the assistance of his brother (on left) both generously donating their time to our event.



Friday's "sock hop" theme brought out the poodle skirts and the ladies showed off their "poodles" in front of and around the classic memorabilia of the Route 66 Hotel and Convention Center.

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

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Communications and Leadership

Cre-8 Your Own Destiny

District 8 is on the web.

www.dist8tm.org

Want to receive the e-Communic~8 in your
inbox? Make sure your email is current.



You still have time to earn your CC award this year for this year's button.

Upcoming Events—Dates to Know

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

Beat the Clock Contest—May 1—June 30

Officer Training—June—August and December—February

District 8 TLI—June 26, 2010—8:30 am

**Lindenwood University @ St Anthony's Med Center
10020 Kennerly Road, St Louis, MO 63128**

District 8 2010 Fall Conference—Nov. 12 & 13

**Harrah's St Louis Casino & Hotel
777 Casino Center Dr, Maryland Heights, MO**

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

District 8 Map

