



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

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# Communic~8

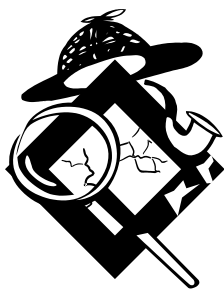
Volume 12, Issue 3

District 8

October 2012

**District 8 is on the web**

[www.dist8tm.org](http://www.dist8tm.org)



*Will you solve the mystery?*

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## A Glimpse of Your Experience at the District's Fall Conference

By Jeanette Lynch, DTM, Division F Governor  
2012 Fall Conference Publicity and Program Book Chair

Here is a glimpse of what you'll experience at the District's Fall Conference,  
*Forging Active Life-long Learning...*



On Friday you will enjoy the drive along the scenic Great River Road with the fall foliage at its finest. You arrive at the peaceful and pastoral Pere Marquette Lodge where you check in to your comfy cabin that sleeps up to five or your homey or modern hotel room (your choice). After receiving your complimentary program/memories book from the Registration Desk,

you head to the buffet that includes the Lodge's famous fried chicken. All meals with desserts include a sugar-free option!

With a plateful of goodies you join a table of fellow Toastmasters decked out as Clue™ characters. Perhaps you sit next to Mrs. Peacock whose feathered headpiece is quite a sight. Your table pits their observation and Table Topics skills against the other tables to determine who killed Mr. Toastbody. Once the mystery is solved, it is time to hear the District's best Table Topics respondents compete.

Their responses can be warm or witty, but they will always be wonderful. After the contest, it is time for everyone to shine in "Toastmasters Got Talent." Enjoy the many talents of your fellow Toastmasters—and as they entertain us—servers will be working for tips that will be collected to help



*(Story continued on page 10)*

**Attend the District 8 Fall Conference November 16-17**

**Curtis Scroggins, DTM**

District Governor

District 8

EMAIL: [DG@dist8tm.org](mailto:DG@dist8tm.org)

## Take A Break—At Pere Marquette!

Hello, District 8 Toastmasters!

As we enter the fall season, have you noticed the changes in the air? The leaves on the trees are turning red, brown and golden hues. The temperature is getting cooler, the hours of daylight are shortened and the long sleeves are coming out! Fall also means conference time in District 8, and I would like to personally invite you to attend the District 8 Fall Conference this year at Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center in Grafton, Illinois.

There are a lot of priorities competing for our time and attention at this time of year and this year is no different. However, I would suggest you take some time and attend the District 8 Fall Conference this year for a much needed break and motivational boost. There will be excellent educational sessions, phenomenal contests, an incredible business meeting and a DTM line featuring 14 (and counting) newly minted DTMs! Look for further details in other parts of this issue that cover the CLUE game, red carpet event, and impressive keynote speakers. I have been attending several of the Area and Division contests and this year's District championships are setting up to be great contests!

I hope your year as a Toastmaster is going well. We have completed 25% of our year so I hope you have accomplished 25% of your goals for this year. The District Success Plan has changed so we are getting measured more on how many clubs are Distinguished and how many membership payments and clubs we have at the end of the year. In an effort to encourage clubs to use the Club Success Plan and be distinguished, I am contacting all of the Club Presidents this year to get their commitment on using the Club Success Plan and focusing on membership. Educational goals are still significant, because that is how we measure personal progress and it still helps make the clubs distinguished.

We still have a long way to go this year, and I encourage you to set your goals for the entire year but to measure them on a monthly or quarterly basis. Consider embracing the method of goal-setting that we are doing this year at the District level, using SMART goals. SMART is an acronym that stands for Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely. There are innumerable websites available that discuss this subject and I would advise you to do your own research if you choose to use this method.

It's been a joy talking to all of the Club Presidents and fellow Toastmasters that I have met so far this year. I've listened to the challenges, celebrated the successes and given helpful advice. We have a great collection of clubs in our district and I wish you all the best of success. I hope to meet many more of you during the fall conference and certainly plan on renewing old friendships and beginning new ones. I hope you'll take this opportunity to do the same. Send in your registration, call the hotel and make this conference the best one yet! If you ever need to contact me, feel free to give me a call at (573) 291-9011 or email me at [DG@Dist8TM.org](mailto:DG@Dist8TM.org). Here's to a great conference and a successful year!

Curtis Scroggins, DTM

District 8 Governor



**Lora Mather, DTM**Lieutenant Governor Education & Training  
District 8

EMAIL: LGET@dist8tm.org

## A Message From the LGET

Today, I watched live on television as Felix Baumgartner floated to over 127,000 feet into the Earth's stratosphere and then fell at speeds over 790 miles per hour, breaking the sound barrier. What phenomenal courage to fly that high and go that fast! I felt anxious and frightened that I would see a man die before my eyes. I worried he would fail in his mission or die; yet I was lifted by his courage and I wished to celebrate his success. I felt these same feelings for each contestant that I heard through this contest season. To our contestants, in my opinion, you were as courageous as Felix excelling in breaking your barriers and performing exceptionally.

Felix's mentor and coach through his project was Joseph Kittinger. In 1960, Joe set the record for jumping from 102,800 feet and has held that record ever since (until today—October 14, 2012). Joe had worked with Felix twice before in attempting this same feat and there were setbacks and failures. One would think that Joe would have refused to mentor him a third time or to be satisfied with knowing that no one else could do what he did. I listened closely to Joe's communication with Felix, as Felix ascended to the edge of space. Joe read through the simulated exit checklist twice, patiently waiting for Felix's confirmation after every instruction. "Open your oxygen compartment. Check. Disconnect your oxygen hose. Check. Stow the hoses and close the zippers. Check." Joe's voice was steady and calm. No side comments; simply calm and steady repeating the instructions, as they had practiced many times before. On the final exit checklist, when Joe gave the instruction to unbuckle your seat belt and there was no response from Felix. Joe simply repeated the phrase and waited patiently for Felix's confirmation. He repeated it again. Then after the third repeat and Felix confirmed that he unbuckled his seat belt, Joe responded with a reassuring "Atta Boy." I still get weepy thinking of Joe's encouraging Felix to take a step that no other human being has ever taken.

Joe's legacy, until today, was that he was the only person who ever jumped from space. On October 14, 2012, his bio reads as the first person who jumped from space. For me, Joe's legacy is his action in helping his friend to go higher and faster than he did. Through their relationship, Joe prepared Felix to take that final step and achieve Felix's dream. Joe was a great mentor and exemplified the traits of an EAGLE.

- **E**manated an uncommonly great attitude
- **A**dd value to everything they do
- **G**ather winners to them
- **L**ove to share ideas for improvement
- **E**quip others to lead
- **S**how fierce loyalty

Equipping others to lead (mentoring) means staying grounded, rehearsing the project checklist with your mentees and providing steady and calm encouragement to them. In overseeing our contest season, I saw our District 8 Eagles mentoring newer members to take that giant leap to their next great achievement—whether it was competing in a contest or performing a functionary role for a contest. Good work, EAGLES!





**Sandra Kardis, DTM**Lieutenant Governor Marketing  
District 8

EMAIL: LGM@dist8tm.org

## A Message From the LGM

Did your club secretary submit your club officer list before June 30th? Did your club treasurer submit your club's October 1 renewals through the Toastmasters International website by October 10th? If you answered yes to both questions, then your club has earned Goal #10 in the Distinguished Club Program! In the July Club Officer list, 7 clubs are listed as not having their club officer list submitted to Toastmasters International. In the October 1 Dues Renewal Report, there are 7 clubs with a minimum requirement not yet met and 10 clubs whose renewals have not been received at Toastmasters International. While checking club details for all clubs, I noticed a decrease in many club's active member count. I encourage the VP Membership of clubs to follow up with members who did not renew. That personal phone call or email could make the difference in retaining them. If you are unable to access TI's enhanced reporting system, check with your Area Governor to confirm that your club is not listed in these reports' statistics.



What is important about the numbers in these reports? As your Lt. Gov. Marketing, I have the responsibility for all aspects of marketing, club-building and member and club-retention efforts within District 8. For District 8 to be Distinguished in the District Recognition Program, we need a 3% net membership payments growth, a 3% net club growth and 40% of our club base to be Distinguished.

How are we going to increase membership in clubs? It will take some time, energy and work. Let's consider guests first. When guests visit a club, we need to convey to them that membership in Toastmasters is one of the greatest investments they can make in themselves. Here are some tips from the Toastmasters International website to help you create a good impression and turn guests into members:

- Set up a comfortable environment for your guests
- Welcome guests to your club meeting
- Run a professional and organized meeting
- Ask your guests for feedback

You can go to <http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/SpotlightArticles/TakingCareofGuests.aspx> for more details.

Let's consider current members next. If you want to infuse your club with new energy, try changing your meetings. How about a different room layout, a joint meeting with another club, a grab bag meeting, a theme meeting, a debate, a speech marathon, or a reverse meeting? When clubs take steps to improve their quality and enhance the member experience everyone benefits. In quality meetings, members are engaged and inspired. Check out *Moments of Truth* <http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/MembershipBuilding/Moments-of-Truth.aspx>. It has been used by countless clubs to sharpen their focus on their most important goal—member service and personal satisfaction. When members grow and flourish, they want to continue in Toastmasters.

"If you get out of Toastmasters all there is to get out of Toastmasters, you will never get out of Toastmasters." Helen Blanchard, DTM and Past International President of Toastmasters.





## District 8 Fall Conference Registration

### November 16 & 17, 2012



#### Personal and Club Information

Attendee 1 Name		Last Name		First Name	
Address				Apt/Unit #	
City		State		Zip Code	
Phone Numbers		Home		Alternate	
Email Address					
Educational Designation		Club Name & Number			
First Time Attendee?    Yes            No		Current Office Held			
Attendee 2 Name		Last Name		First Name	
Educational Designation		Club Name & Number			
First Time Attendee?    Yes            No		Current Office Held			

#### Registration Options

Full Registration Includes all four meals, educational sessions, and contests	<b>Attendee 1</b> (\$115 after 10/26)		
	<b>Attendee 2</b> ***if Household Member or Non-Toastmaster Guest ( \$105 after 10/26)		
A La Carte Meals, Per Person: (before and after deadline date)	Friday Buffet (\$33 after 10/26)		
	Saturday Breakfast (\$17 after 10/26)		
	Saturday Lunch (\$20 after 10/26)		
	Saturday Dinner (\$33 after 10/26)		
A La Carte, Per Person: Educational Sessions & Contest Only (no meals included)	Saturday Educational Sessions (\$25 after 10/26)		
	Friday Contest (\$5 each) and/or Saturday Contest (\$5 each)		
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$</b>

#### Meal Options

Saturday Dinner (choose 1 option) For special dietary needs, please email <a href="mailto:conference@dist8tm.org">conference@dist8tm.org</a>	<b>Attendee 1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prime Rib of Beef	<input type="checkbox"/> Roasted Rosemary Garlic Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/> Eggplant Parmesan
	<b>Attendee 2</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prime Rib of Beef	<input type="checkbox"/> Roasted Rosemary Garlic Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/> Eggplant Parmesan

#### Payment Information

**Make Checks payable to "District 8 Toastmasters".** U.S. Mail to: Cynthia Warren, 55 Highland Park Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63017.  
**For credit card payments** and/or special dietary needs, send this form, via email, to [conference@dist8tm.org](mailto:conference@dist8tm.org).

**Hotel Reservations:** Pere Marquette Lodge, 13653 Lodge Boulevard, Grafton, IL 62037 \* Call: (618) 786-2331. **Please ask for District 8 Toastmasters rate.** Rooms and cabins are **\$89 per night** (single/double occupancy) until Tuesday, November 06, 2012.



## **Wanted: Experienced Toastmasters to Serve as Club Coaches**

By Debra M. Morrissey, DTM—Club Coach Chair

Fellow Toastmasters,

*The mission of a Club Coach is to empower Clubs with twelve or fewer members to achieve Distinguished Status within one Toastmasters' year. Successful completion of this mission will result in untold benefits to you, your team, and to the members of the Club(s) you guide to health and long-term growth.*

Your assignment is the first step of a journey that will challenge your leadership and communication skills in profound ways. At the end of your journey, you will have touched the lives of many people by helping them reach new goals and achieve new successes.

The Club Coach program is designed to help clubs attain long-term growth, health and success by helping them help themselves. The Club Coach program places the responsibility and accountability for the organization's health on the club itself.

A strong club is one that has 20 members. When club membership falls to 12 or below, the club is eligible for a coach. To request a coach, a club president sends a request to the District 8 Governor. The District Governor will contact the current Club Coach Chair who will search for a club coach. There is a real shortage of Toastmasters that have volunteered to serve as a club coach. Please let me know if you are available to be a club coach.

There are many resources to assist you in coaching a club. As Club Coach Chair, I will work closely with all of the club coaches. I will train you and offer continual support. One of the best resources is to become familiar with Club Coach Weekly at [www.tmcoach.org](http://www.tmcoach.org). At that website, you can read articles written by successful coaches. The articles highlight the experiences of various club coaches. Another powerful resource is The Club Coach Playbook. (Some of this article is taken from that resource.)

I served as a club coach to Missouri Toast of the Town from 2010-2011. It was one of the most rewarding experiences of my Toastmaster's career. It is not difficult, but it does require a level of commitment and leadership.

Being a successful club coach is one of three ways that you can work toward achieving an Advanced Leader Silver educational award.



## This Is What Toastmasters Is All About!

By Sandy Kardis, DTM—Lt. Governor Marketing

As a Society of Military Engineers Community Service Coordinator and Hope for Heroes volunteer, Lisa Carducci does a lot of volunteering and fund raising for the military. A couple of months ago, Lisa gave a presentation at the Scott Field Post. Her speech was titled “Life’s Changing Moments.” Lisa discussed how one’s life can change in an instant—good or bad. Lisa gave examples from having a new baby, promotion at work, a layoff or even death. She discussed how a recent tragedy of a soldier had impact to not only the soldier but his family and squad. It all changed in an instant as the squad came in contact with a hidden unexploded ordnance and the soldier lost both his legs. Lisa’s presentation included photos of the soldier with his parents from the night he was deployed to add impact. She then explained how our injured soldiers can be helped. She showed the audience two examples of backpacks and explained what the Hope for Heroes organization could do to help gather contents, assemble the backpacks and ship them overseas.

According to Jerry Adams, Vice President Yaeger Architecture and Society of American Military Engineers Fellow, Lisa gave a speech that was well-organized, extremely well-delivered and precise. Her in-depth briefing on the tremendous need for backpacks to give comfort and aid to Wounded Warriors as they start the long journey back to wellness was presented with such passion and heartfelt appeal for assistance. Lisa’s speech made an impact. In September, Yaeger Architecture presented a check for \$2,500 to the Hope for Heroes foundation. This money will go towards the supplies for the backpacks that will be assembled and shipped overseas. They will be given to the soldiers who are wounded and being shipped back to the United States to receive medical care.

District 8 Toastmasters congratulates Lisa on her work with Wounded Warriors. We truly are fortunate to have her as a Toastmaster—a Toastmaster who demonstrates her speaking skills not only in the Toastmasters club environment but outside as well! I believe Toastmasters opened an entirely new world of possibilities for Lisa.

Lisa is President of Jacobs P3 Toastmasters Club #2187152. To boost the Jacobs P3 membership, the club officer leadership asked the Discipline Directors to promote Toastmasters to their employees during performance reviews. To give them an understanding of the benefits of Toastmasters, the directors were invited to the club’s September 5th meeting. Jacobs P3 Toastmasters Club really utilizes their employer to promote the Toastmasters program.



Pictured in the photo from left to right are: Chip Shaffer—Hope for Heroes Illinois State Coordinator; Fran Shaffer—Hope for Heroes volunteer, Lt. Col. Christian Knutson—P.E., PMP, President Scott Field Post, Society of American Military Engineers; Lisa Carducci and Jerry Adams—Vice President Yaeger Architecture, Society of American Military Engineers Fellow.



## Advanced Toastmaster Club Capital T Celebrates 30 Years

*By Tom Coscia, DTM, IPDG*

On September 24 over thirty Toastmasters and friends gathered at the Crown Plaza Downtown to celebrate Capital T Toastmaster's first 30 years. President **Jerry Chapman** introduced club member and Immediate Past District Governor **Tom Coscia, DTM**, as the Master of Ceremonies. Including the Top Trio, **Curtis Scroggins, DTM**, **Lora Mather, DTM**, and **Sandy Kardis, DTM**, Tom introduced over six past district governors in attendance, all of whom who are current or past members of Capital T: **Nancy Jones, DTM**, **Mary Kerwin, DTM**, **Chuck Carpenter, DTM, PID**, **Gary White, DTM**, **Sherry White, DTM** and **Dori Drummond, DTM**.



The program started with club charter member **Gary White** explaining how the club was formed in 1982. Club sponsor and Immediate Past District Governor **Phil Vonder Haar, DTM** had a unique vision for District 8's first advanced club. To be eligible to join, Toastmasters must have completed the first basic Toastmaster manual. A Capital T Club Member Handbook was created that addressed all of the policies including a written grammar test that must be passed to be eligible to join. There were no timing lights used and every meeting featured an impromptu speaker and a grammar lesson.

Following Gary, Tom led an open "table topics" on funny Capital T moments over the past 30 years. It was a chance for everyone in attendance to share their favorite club memories. Then Tom led a friendly competition of "Family Feud". The event closed with Tom reciting some inspiring words from Immediate Past International President **Michael Notaro, DTM**. All guests received an etched 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital T decorative glass bowl and a copy of the original club handbook as a keepsake.

Special thanks to **Carol Warner, DTM** for handling all of the hotel logistics and **Wendy Clothier** for etching the bowls. Putting together a memorable and entertaining anniversary program takes some time and planning. But it is well worthwhile in building club spirit and camaraderie. Does your club have a special anniversary coming up? Contact District 8 Club Anniversary Chair (and past Capital T Member) **Dori Drummond, DTM, PDG** for more information.



Gary White, DTM, PDG



Tom Coscia—DTM, IPDG and  
Curtis Scroggins—DTM, DG



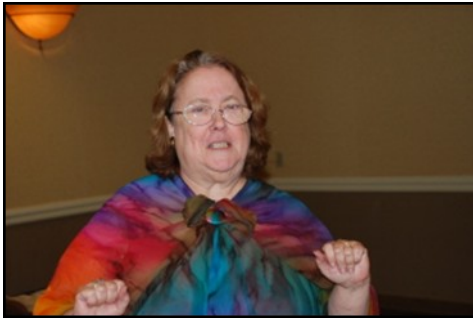
Angell Chisholm, DTM



*Photos by Jerry Chapman*





**Advanced Toastmaster Club Capital T Celebrates 30 Years***By Tom Coscia, DTM, IPDG**Photos by Jerry Chapman*

Sherry White—DTM, PDG



Tom Coscia DTM, IPDG &amp; President Jerry Chapman

Margaret MacAdam & Mary Kerwin—  
DTM, PDG

(Continued from page 1)

support our prison club. There will also be the opportunity to stargaze on the hillside, with celestial maps and a telescope, as the country sky will sparkle with stars.

On Saturday morning enjoy our annual breakfast *roast* while our immediate past District Governor, Tom Coscia, is the recipient of witty and wry observations. That morning we will hear from our Keynote speaker, Mr. Robert M. Dandridge, who retired from the US Air Force as a Chief Master Sergeant in 2008 after a 30-year military career. He is a professional speaker who has delivered over 100 speeches. He has presented in Belgium, Germany, Japan, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States. He started in Toastmasters in 1987 and has held the offices of club President, VP of Membership, VP of Publicity, Treasurer and Sergeant-At-Arms. Mr. Dandridge won numerous Toastmasters' awards and twice won Japan's Speaker of the Year award. He frequently speaks to educational, military and professional groups on the subject of leadership and motivation. We are thrilled to have him as our Keynote Speaker at the upcoming Fall Conference.



Robert Dandridge



Dietmar Wagenknecht

While we enjoy a curricula of courses designed to forge our life-long learning, Dietmar Wagenknecht, our Region 5 Advisor, will join a panel of District 8 Toastmasters to enlighten us on membership building as our family enjoys nature walks, pool exercise, wine tastings or a game in the roomy Grand Hall.

At lunch we will dine on a variety of soups, sandwiches and salads as we hear from our Communication and Leadership Award recipient, Michelle Tucker. Ms. Tucker is a four-time recipient of the Bank of America's Spirit Medallion Award, serves as a vice chair for the United Way Community Impact Committee, and was the 2010 recipient of the St. Louis Business Journal's Most Influential Diverse Business Leader Award.



Michelle Tucker



Benefitting from a day of educational and inspirational programs, the evening takes us to a time to relax and have fun. As you make your way on the red carpet to the banquet room, the paparazzi will be snapping your photograph. You sizzle in your finest gown or suit as you have your photograph professionally taken in front of the grand fireplace—another fundraiser for our prison club. Your dinner will be the prime rib, chicken rosemary or eggplant parmesan you ordered. You will have a belly full of food and soon a belly full of laughter as the Humorous Speech Contest takes place. The excitement will continue with the largest line of DTMs we have assembled. Fourteen members and counting are receiving their DTM awards this time!

While you party until the wee hours in the Hospitality room, remember to meet in the field Sunday morning where an aerial photographer will take our picture as we form a figure eight for our District. Perhaps you will pop into the gift shop for a final memento to keep with your program book as you *Leave with new insights, new friends and fond memories.*



Register for the District's Fall Conference, Forging Active Life-long Learning,  
by contacting Cynthia Warren via email at [conference@dist8tm.org](mailto:conference@dist8tm.org).





# Fall Conference—At a Glance

## Friday November 16, 2012

5:00—7:00 pm	Registration Table Topics Contest Briefing (6:30—7:00 pm)
7:00 pm	Dinner Buffet CLUE Game Activity
8:30 pm	Table Topics Contest Announce Winners and Take Photos
9:30 pm	Stargazing Activity
10:00 pm	“Toastmasters Got Talent” Variety Show Wait Service / Fundraiser during show

## Saturday November 17, 2012

7:30 am	Breakfast Buffet IPDG Roast
8:20 am	Banner Line Up & Parade
8:30 am	*** Credential Desk Opens ***
8:45 am	Keynote Speaker
10:00 am	Council Meeting Activities—Nature Walk, Board Game Bonanza
11:45 am	Lunch & Networking
1:00—4:00 pm	Education Sessions Activities—Wine Tasting, Bottle Toss Fundraisers
5:00—6:55 pm	Red Carpet Extravaganza Activity—Photo Fundraiser <b>Contest Briefings (6:15—6:45 pm)</b>
7:00 pm	Dignitary Line Up & Procession Invocation & Dinner
8:15 pm	Humorous Speech Contest
9:30 pm	DTM Line & Awards Ceremony Announce Contest Winners / Photos / Acknowledgements



## Sunday November 18, 2012

9:00—9:30 am	District 8 Figure 8 Photo Event
11:00 am	Hotel Checkout

# Forging Active Lifelong Learning



## GOT TALENT?

Sure you do, you're a Toastmaster! Can you sing? Dance? Mime? Are you a magician or musician? Whatever your talent, join the "Toastmasters Got Talent" show.

At the Fall Conference, Friday night will include many activities, including a great buffet featuring Pere Marquette's famous fried chicken. We will also have a group-wide game of *'who dun it'* as our characters determine who killed Mr. Toastbody. Then it is on to the Table Topics contest where we will experience the best in the District compete. After the contest the "Toastmasters Got Talent" begins.

Whether you are a contestant or cheering in the crowd, this show will be memorable.

The contest will be judged by the District Trio (District Gov., Lt. Gov. Education & Training, and Lt. Gov. Marketing) and by votes from the audience!

Contact Casetta Stevens with the type of act you will be performing. No need to audition or send a tape, just **email** [casetta.stevens@yahoo.com](mailto:casetta.stevens@yahoo.com).

Performances should be 5-7 minutes and appropriate for all ages.

If you tell jokes, juggle, or have another talent, you should be in the spotlight...this is your chance to showcase another talent you have as a Toastmaster.





## Forging Active Lifelong Learning

*Leave with new insights, new friends, and fond memories*

This theme for our District's Fall Conference is extremely appropriate as we have the opportunity for interactive, life-long learning with our educational program featuring 10 different topics. There are sessions geared to beginner, intermediate, and seasoned Toastmasters, as well as sessions for all levels of experience.

For newer and intermediate Toastmasters we have sessions that discuss how to *"Write Your Next Speech"* with Don Clare, and *"Give a Great Table Topics Answer"* featuring Jerry Hoeflein and Wayne Allen, and its partner presentation that is suitable for all levels of experience, *"Practice Table Topics."* The practicing, lead by John Bohning, will take place in the cozy but roomy Grand Hall by the roaring fireplace! Also for beginners and intermediate Toastmasters, how to *"Give an Effective Evaluation"* with Erin Gissel and Adam Kutell.

In addition to the sessions mentioned already, intermediate Toastmasters can benefit from learning to *"Paint Word Pictures"* with Carrie Radnov as half the class time will take place outside or at another inspirational location at the Lodge.

The *"Build Your Club and Retain Members"* session for intermediate and seasoned Toastmasters will feature our visiting Region 5 Advisor, Dietmar Wagenknecht, our Lt. Gov. of Marketing, Sandy Kardis, and past Area Governors, Bridgette Wesley and Ray Allen.

Seasoned Toastmasters will also enjoy the two-hour session, *"Go From Speaker to Trainer"* that will be lead by Becka Clark, and *"Craft That Contest Winning Speech"* featuring Tom Huling, John Mohr and Jef Williams.

All Toastmasters can participate in the *"Practice Table Topics"* session already described, as well as the *"Know Your Toastmasters Practices and Protocol"* with Past District Governors Dori Drummond, Mary Kerwin and Tom Coscia. Our Keynote Speaker, Robert Dandridge, will lead a discussion on how to *"Communicate Effectively in Different Cultures"*.

Keep checking the District 8 Web site for updates on all Fall Conference Activities and Educational Sessions.

<http://www.dist8tm.org/conf.html>

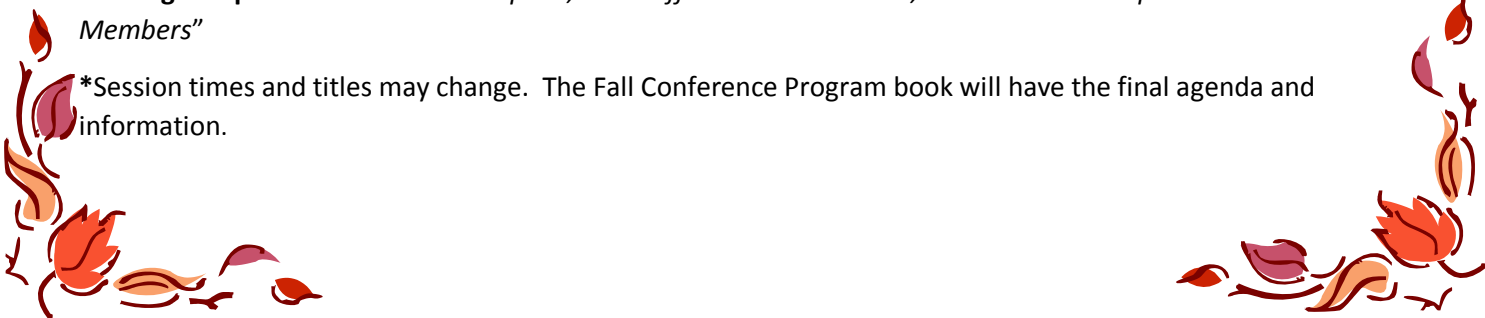
### **Sessions-at-a-Glance\***

**Starting at 1 pm:** *"Craft the Contest-Winning Speech", "Paint Word Pictures", "Write Your Next Speech"*

**Starting at 2 pm:** *"Go From Speaker to Trainer" (2 hr. session), "Give a Great Table Topics Answer", "Know Your Toastmaster Practices and Protocol," "Communicate Effectively in Different Cultures".*

**Starting at 3 pm:** *"Practice Table Topics", "Give Effective Evaluations", "Build Membership and Retain Club Members"*

\*Session times and titles may change. The Fall Conference Program book will have the final agenda and information.





## District 8 members earn Education & Leadership Awards from September 7, 2012 to October 25, 2012



### Division A

#### Chesterfield Toastmasters Club

- Simon, Garrison D.—CL
- Puerto, Evelyn C.—CL

#### Jeffco Challengers Club

- Meadows, Brook Rose—ACS
- Link, Elizabeth M.—CC

#### Marion VA Toastmasters

- Schlager, Sandy—CL

#### Maritz Toastmasters

- Kotur, Michael T.—CL
- Kotur, Michael T.—CC
- Malone, Gerri—ACB

#### Mastertoasters Club

- Madala, Satish—CC

#### Poplar Bluff Toastmasters

- Suter, Darlene—ALS
- Suter, Darlene—DTM

#### South County Toastmasters Club

- Stewart, Brent P.—CC
- Sapienza, Barbara Ann—ACB
- McAliney, Dee—ACS
- Wilson, Kevin Lee—ACB

### Division B

#### Covidien Communicators

- Schoenstein, Tasha—CC

#### Creve Coeur Toastmasters Club

- Carpenter, Charles N.—CC

#### Grace Church Toastmasters

- Morrissey, Debra M.—ACG
- Morrissey, Debra M.—DTM

#### Little Hills Toastmasters

- Kehrbaum, Jonas—ALB

#### McCarthy Communication Builders

- Oderman, Christa A.—CL

#### Money Talks Club

- Barnett, Doris—CL

#### Monsanto Noontime Toastmasters

- English, Brenda B.—ACG

#### Plus Factor Club

- Cross, Richard—ACB
- Barnett, Doris—ALS
- Hill-Carter, Camesha N.—CL

#### Save-a-Lot Toastmasters (SALT)

- Johnson, Stacey K.—CC

#### Shalom Church Toastmasters

- Lance, Robinette—CC
- Blue, Willie E.—CC

#### St Charles County Toastmasters Club

- Hayden, William W.—ACS

### Division C

#### ADM Toastmasters

- Betzer, Mary T.—CL

#### McBrian Lincoln Douglas Club

- Amon, Rose G.—ACB
- Unchageri, Chandan—DTM
- Unchageri, Chandan—ACG
- Reserva, Pat O.—CC
- Suzuki, Erika—CL
- Tucker, Bobby M.—CC

#### O'Fallon Toastmasters Club

- Boeckmann, Vernon A.—ACB

#### Scott Toastmasters Club

- Hobbs, Victoria C.—ACB

### Division E

#### Capital Toastmasters Club

- Langston, Art—ACG

#### Courage to Grow Toastmasters Club

- Stevenson, Mary E.—ACB

#### Downtown Toastmasters

- LaRose, Judith Claire—CL

#### Lincoln University Toastmasters

- Baker-Bey, Dennis P.—CL
- Baker-Bey, Dennis P.—CC
- McCauley, Demetris R.—CL

#### Missouri Univ. of Science & Technology

- Clark, Kevin L.—CC

#### Ozark Orators Club

- Allen, Edward R.—CL

#### Shelter Insurance Toastmasters

- Hurst, Dustin Lee—ALB
- Smith, Erica E.—CL
- Gadicherla, Swaraj—CL

#### Talu Toastmasters Club

- Gibson, Kerry N.—ACB
- Licklider, William F.—CL
- Wright, Robert E.—ACB

### Division F

#### Anheuser-Busch Club

- Desrosiers, Kevin M.—CC

#### BJC Toastmasters

- Anigolu, Chandana S—CC

#### Free Speakers

- Calhoun, Lawson H.—ACB

#### MAC Toastmasters Club

- Singer, David J—CC

#### Missouri Toast of the Town Club

- Stevens, Casetta—DTM
- Stevens, Casetta—ALS
- Cobb, Talfanita M.—CL
- Broadway, Latoya S—CC
- Stevens, Casetta—CL

#### MOCO Torchmasters

- Finks, Jason—CC
- Lee, Suzanne R.—ACB

#### Primary Conversations

- Jones, Arnita Kyee—CL
- Anderson, Robin G.—ACG
- Anderson, Robin G.—DTM
- Somerville, Morenika V.—CL

#### Solae Toastmasters Club

- Gu, Yeun Suk (Soo) - CC

#### Voices in Unity Club

- Mwangi, Dorothy Wambui—CC
- Passanise, Cheryl L.—CC

#### Wells Fargo Advisors Toastmasters

- Lynch, Jeanette M.—ALS
- Lynch, Jeanette M.—LDREXC
- Lynch, Jeanette M.—DTM
- Turner, Jiaihdi—CC



# My Promises

By Chris Pesigan—former member of Creve Coeur Toastmasters

Trying something new is never easy. It's even harder trying something new as a high school senior. I did not have an immediate talent for speaking in public. I would shift my weight nervously from one side to the other, stammer and slip over words, and often ramble and jumble sentences together similar to a busy six-way intersection. My uncle and mentor, Dennis Prebler, advised me to attend Toastmasters because it would advance my professional career and improve my speaking habits. He continued to mention Toastmasters.

I promised him I would attend a meeting. I did not want to shy away from the challenge that had been presented - walk into a room without knowing anyone and speak to them. There is always the fear of rejection, awkward encounters, or others' judgments. My promise to him stood as the sole driver to help me overcome my fears.

Attending the first Toastmasters meeting seemed like an insurmountable challenge. I walked into the Creve Coeur Government building and wandered down the white hall into a small back room. Several people were conversing; others seemed to be preparing for the event. As I stepped through the door, I was immediately greeted by Sandy Kardis, who had been a co-worker of my mother, as well as other Toastmasters Jenny Lowhorn and Persis Mehta. I gravitated to the group because of their kindness and their knowledge. Here I increased my ability to speak in front of others, improved my ability to think on my feet and understood the importance of positive reinforcement. This club was important because I began to see the benefits of bettering myself. I began to see the effects of speaking a clear, concise thought to someone rather than a mess of muddled words.

At the University of Notre Dame, there were no speaking or leadership clubs. Most clubs focused around academics and sports. I played collegiate rugby but felt I was missing something. Toastmasters offers people skills, something universities hope their students develop on their own. I made it my goal to bring Toastmasters to the Notre Dame campus.

The task was not easy especially with the bureaucracy among campus clubs. We needed to put together a constitution, coordinate with Toastmasters International, and devise a way to subsidize dues. The most difficult part was offering students something of value. College students are in classes, do homework, participate in programs, and have group projects. To get students to attend, our club needed to offer a professional club centered on each individual's growth.

In my sophomore and junior year, we built membership in the provisional Toastmasters club to about 20 with 9 key members. However, most members could not afford dues. The club held monthly meetings and incorporated some creative new techniques for Table Topics. My senior year, I passed the club to Daniel Palmer who has now passed the club to a freshman named Drago. I hope he sees the value that I saw in the club. I recently started my job at Ernst and Young, a job I received because of my improved people skills. I know I need to give back. I made myself a promise to donate as an alumni until the Toastmasters chapter of Notre Dame can get up and running as a chartered club. Toastmasters has given so much to me; it is time I give back.





***Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club  
Invites you special workshop:***

***“How to Create Your Own Website”***

***Presenter: Dale Lancaster  
—District 8 Webmaster—***

***Learn steps to design and publish your own website.***

**Bridgeton Trails Library  
3455 McKelvey Rd  
Bridgeton, MO 63044**

**November 10th, 2012  
Time: 10am—Noon**





# TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

## District 8 is on the web.

### [www.dist8tm.org](http://www.dist8tm.org)

## WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

### The Mission of District 8

The mission of the District is to enhance the performance and extend the network of Clubs, thereby offering greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from the Toastmasters educational program by:

- Focusing on the critical success factors as specified by the District educational and membership goals.
- Insuring that each Club effectively fulfills its responsibilities to its members.
- Providing effective training and leadership opportunities for Club and District Officers.

## Upcoming Events:

### November

8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#  
16-17th—District 8 Fall Conference  
*Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center*  
*13853 Lodge Boulevard, Grafton, IL 62037*

### December

1st—Early Bird Club Officer Training  
*St Richard's Catholic Church*  
*11223 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, MO 63146*  
8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#  
15th—DEC Meeting

### January

5th—District 8 TLI  
*Downtown Crowne Plaza Hotel*  
*200 North 4th St., St. Louis, MO*  
8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#  
8th—DEC Meeting

### February

8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#  
22-24—Working Women's Survival Show  
*St. Charles Covention Center, St. Charles, MO*  
23rd—DEC Meeting

### March

8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#  
St. Patrick's Day Parades (more info to come)

### April

8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#  
27th—DEC Meeting

### May

8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#  
17-18—District 8 2013 Spring Conference  
*Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel*  
*9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63134*

### June

8th—District 8@8 Call, 8:00 pm (605) 475-4000 PIN: 166461#

**Do you have an article, photo,  
or other item you  
would like to  
contribute to a future  
issue of the  
"Communic~8"?**



### Communic~8 Deadlines for Year

- **December 1, 2012**
- **March 1, 2013**
- **April 15, 2013**
- **June 1, 2013**

### TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

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### District 8 Map

