



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

www.toastmasters.org

Communic~8

Volume 12, Issue 2

District 8

September 2012

District 8 is on the web

www.dist8tm.org



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A First Timer's Perspective of the Toastmasters International Convention

By Sandy Kardis, DTM—Lt. Governor Marketing

The 81st Toastmasters International Convention in Orlando, Florida was a wonderful experience for me. Four days were packed with events ranging from the Opening Ceremonies on Wednesday to the President's Dinner Dance on Saturday.

The Opening Ceremonies began with the traditional Parade of Flags. Hadrian Lutogniewski dressed in his native Polish costume and carried the flag of Poland. I met Hadrian during the District Leadership Training. We met again in the bookstore line. Our conversation led to Hadrian offering to show me around in cities in Poland that have a Toastmasters club if I will give an educational speech at a club meeting. Hadrian is Lt. Governor Marketing from District 59—Continental Europe. The Opening Ceremonies concluded with Joel Manby's keynote message, "Love Works." He has refined his leadership philosophy for more than 25 years and is currently President and CEO of Herschend Family Entertainment. You might remember his appearance on the TV show, Undercover Boss. I bought Joel's book and got his autograph.

On Thursday, I enjoyed the Hall of Fame where Curtis Scroggins was honored with an Excellence in Education and Training award. It is awarded to Lieutenant Governors Education and Training for achieving and exceeding Distinguished

District Program goals in training and educational accomplishments. The highlight of this day was the Speech Contest Semi-finals. I attended a contest in all three groups which means I heard 28 speeches. Hadrian and I were paired together as timers for Speech Contest 6 in Group 2. Tom Huling

(Story continued on page 5)



Attend the District 8 Fall Conference November 16-17

**Curtis Scroggins**District Governor
District 8

Hello, Fellow Toastmasters!

We are already over two months into the Toastmasters year and I am already asking where the time has gone. July had makeup TLIs and the Judges Training and August was highlighted by our attendance at the annual International Convention in Orlando. During the convention, our international speech contestant representative Tom Huling, placed second in his semi-final round. This marks the third year in a row that District 8 has placed second in the semi-finals! Read about Tom's experience in this issue of the Communic~8.



The International Convention started early for District leaders with training Monday and Tuesday. I was able to learn, interact and build relationships with my team and fellow District Governors. I came away with signatures and cards from 75 of the 90 Governors! We had a great business session, where we used electronic voting for the first time in recent Toastmasters International history. This sped up the business meeting to the point where we actually finished almost 30 minutes early. The keynotes, breakouts and activities all presented opportunities for growth, insight and innovative ideas that we can implement in our District. You will see some of these at the Fall Conference.

Between now and then, there are several opportunities to attend Toastmasters events. We have 20 Areas which will all be conducting their contests during the month of September. Go out and support your Club, Area or just Toastmasters in general and volunteer to help with a contest or two. Our five Divisions will have their contests in October, all at separate times, so you can attend one or all of these. Dates, locations and times for all contests are posted on the District 8 website at <http://www.dist8tm.org/calendar.html>. Feel free to contact an Area or Division Governor directly and volunteer to help. Just click on their name on the contact page of the district website (<http://www.dist8tm.org/team.html>) to send them an email. I'm sure they will appreciate it.

As we move through the year, our consistent concern is where we are on the path to Distinguished and what can be done to continue to recruit, maintain and improve our membership and clubs. The measurement of success this year focuses more on membership and distinguished clubs than on educational achievement and leadership awards. However, don't be fooled, we will still be celebrating our educational accomplishments this year, and I am proud to say that we already have 6 DTMs to be awarded at the conference and one club that is already Distinguished! Already!

Speaking of the Fall Conference, this issue of the Communic~8 focuses on our upcoming Fall Conference to be held this year at the Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center located in Grafton, IL. This conference promises to be unique in that we are featuring our own talented members as entertainment for Friday night. Come out and see those hidden talents that you never knew your fellow Toastmasters were gifted with. The night will culminate with the District Table Topics Championship. Saturday will be busy with breakfast, the Immediate Past District Governor's Roast, business meeting, educational sessions and the District Humorous Speech Contest Finals. Don't forget to register and, if you are a club officer, bring your club proxy which will enable you to participate in any voting that may be necessary during the business meeting. I look forward to seeing you there and hearing about what a great year you are having already! As always, feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns regarding the District. I can be reached at scrogginscurtis@gmail.com or (573) 291-9011.

Curtis Scroggins, DTM



**Lora Mather**Lieutenant Governor Education and Training
District 8EMAIL: LGET@dist8tm.org

A Message From the LGET

In the past few months, District 8 has increased its convocation of eagles. Remember the traits of Eagles:

- **E**manate an uncommonly great attitude
- **A**dd value to everything they do
- **G**ather winners to them
- **L**ove to share ideas that improve the organization
- **E**quip others to lead
- **S**how fierce loyalty to D8's members and leadership



This first round of club officer training was challenging and exciting. Of the 113 clubs, 86 clubs achieved the *half goal* of having four or more officers trained. This is over 76% of our officers who know what is expected to serve their club members. Throughout our training as district leaders in Orlando, our regional advisors reminded us several times that club officer training is the foundation for the club to achieve its goals.

At first, I thought of this as simply knowing the standards and duties for each office. Now I see that it is much more. Club officers create the team environment in which each member can grow and thrive. Club officers are the guardians of that environment. They must know how to handle differences of opinion or conflicts. But it is more than that. One of the signs of a successful club is when officers lead the club through challenges and disagreements. They know how to approach club members keeping the resolution of the issue as the focus, not the personalities. Respect for the individual must be the guiding value in identifying conflict. Opportunities for individual growth and club growth will blossom from conflict resolution. Potential guests may desire to be a member of a warm and inviting club, but staying with a club and making the commitment to grow with a club is determined by how the club approaches difference of opinion or styles. Club officers are leaders. Their primary task is to become leaders through experiencing both the positive and not so positive aspects of leadership. I now have a deeper understanding of "where leaders are made."

During this round of club officer training, I saw our division and area governors reach out to provide more than one opportunity for training. They travelled to clubs, held training sessions and began to build their relationships with their clubs. I heard them encouraging and extending that one-on-one training to help a club with training that fourth officer, and, in several cases, to train that seventh officer to put their clubs in the running for the Lucky 7 ribbon and incentives. I don't think that people make such efforts just to have a new banner or lectern. I think that people make these efforts to help others to succeed.

I felt that the District 8 leadership made a giant leap to equip others to lead and they showed fierce loyalty to its members. It has been my pleasure to be a part of that effort.

Lora Mather, DTM •

**Sandra Kardis**Lieutenant Governor Marketing
District 8

EMAIL: LGM@dist8tm.org

A Message From the LGM

During the August 13-14 District Leadership Training in Orlando, Florida, I learned with my peers, networked, created plans, evaluated goals, brainstormed ideas, and shared best practices. The underlying theme for Lieutenant Governors Marketing was growth and retention which is objective 1 in the Toastmasters International Strategic Plan. Smartly planned membership and club growth are fundamental to Toastmasters' future. At the same time, continually engaging members and helping them achieve their personal and professional goals will result in increased retention. For District 8 to be Distinguished in the District Recognition Program, we need 3% net membership payments growth, 3% net club growth, and 40% of our club base Distinguished. I am sharing some ways for us to meet these membership goals.



A New Club Lead sheet has already been posted on the Home Page of District 8's website. Check it out at <http://www.dist8tm.org/docs/New%20Club%20Lead%2007-28-12.pdf>. You will be eligible to receive one of the following for a lead:

1. Receive a \$10.00 District 8 Book Store credit for a lead.
2. Receive a 20% discount on registration to the next District 8 Conference if your lead becomes a club.

Mike Helm, elected Region 12 International Director, shared his ACTA strategy approach to converting guests to members. **Ask** the question—"What brought you to the meeting today?" Be an active listener to their response. **Confirm** their response. "Would I be right in saying that you have come to Toastmasters because" **Transform** your response. Tell guests about the specific part of the Toastmasters program that directly addresses the needs which they have expressed and not what you want to tell them. This is the critical conversation. **Ask** guests to join. The approach is based on 5 words, **"Do you want to join?"** Have a membership pack and application form available for guests at each meeting.

Lois Sicking, candidate for Region 10 International Director, shared a number of membership retention ideas. I selected several to share with you. Ask each member what they think their skill sets and challenges are and then build on them. Have fun meetings or theme meetings based on suggestions from members. Have lively meetings with variety in meeting format such as a Backwards Meeting. Promote all Communication and Leadership Educational Awards Programs. Give members responsibility, encourage and mentor them to positions of greater responsibility.

Pat Hannan, elected Region 4 International Director, believes there are so many ways to promote the great things happening in our clubs. She shared some ideas to add some sizzle to an open house or special event. Take a photo of your guest and send it back to them with a "Thank You" note. Get your club information in your company newsletter. Hand out silly door prizes such as white elephant items. Recognize a community leader for their leadership and communication at a special meeting. Others might come to listen and join.

October 1 renewals are approaching. Will your club be an Early Bird? The first 5 clubs that submit their renewals between September 1 and September 16 will receive recognition on the District 8 website and a \$10.00 District 8 Bookstore Credit.

Sandy Kardis, DTM ■

(Continued from page 1)

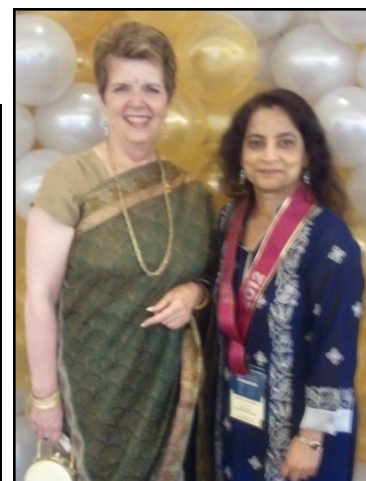
competed in Speech Contest 7 in Group 3. Read Tom's article about his experience inside this issue.

Lora Mather and I were up early on Friday so we could attend the Candidates' Showcase that began at 7:00 A.M. Candidates for International offices addressed convention delegates by answering questions from a moderator. This was our second time to see and hear the candidates. Curtis arranged interview time for the three of us on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Each of us had a prepared question for the candidates. Later I attended an enjoyable educational session, "The Humor CODE—9 Laws of Humor for Your Speaking Success." At the Golden Gavel Dinner that night, John C. Maxwell was presented with the prestigious Golden Gavel award for his achievements as a leadership expert, best-selling author and motivational speaker. John is a compelling speaker.

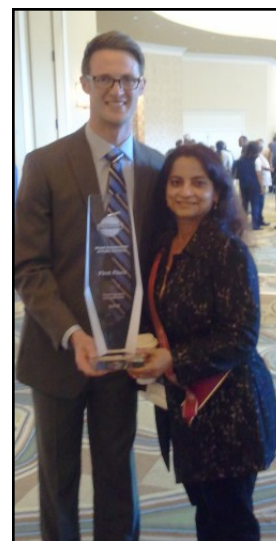
The best part of Saturday was the International Speech Contest where nine finalists competed for the title of World Champion. With these speeches, the total number of speeches I heard was 37. The nine finalist speeches were the best of the best. Ryan Avery, first place winner has been in Toastmasters less than two years. I believe any Toastmaster of District 8 has the potential to reach this level with dedication, determination, hard work and fellow Toastmasters' support. At the President's Dinner Dance, Jim Heeren, DTM and a 2011—2012 Region 7 Advisor and Jackie Kloosterboer sat next to me. I enjoyed our dinner conversation. Jackie is the author of the article "What Happens in Vegas" in the June 2012 *Toastmasters* magazine. Jim and Jackie met at the 2011 Convention. ■



Sally Carpenter, D8
Governor Curtis Scroggins
and Cynthia Scroggins at TI
Convention



Photos from the International Convention: (top left to bottom right) (1.) Curtis Scroggins with outgoing International President Michael Notaro; (2.) Diana Huling, Mary Kerwin, Curtis Scroggins, Sandy Kardis, Tom Huling, Lora Mather, Sally Carpenter; (3.) Past International President Pat Johnson with Farzana Chohan; (4.) Curtis Scroggins asking question; (5.) Sally Carpenter, Farzana Chohan and Sandy Kardis; (6.) 2012 World Champion of Public Speaking Ryan Avery with Farzana Chohan •



What a show!

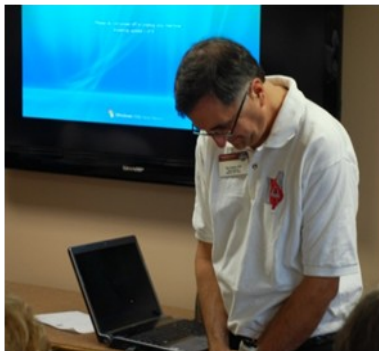
Jerry Chapman—Voices in Unity Toastmasters # 1291

Saturday night, August 18—the Sports Café Restaurant in Bridgeton was where you wanted to be. As you know, the International Speech Contest took place in Orlando, FL that Saturday. We had the privilege of viewing the contest a few hours later, right here in St. Louis!

The venue worked out really well. We had our own private screening room with a large flat-screen monitor away from the bar and restaurant. We had great servers and were able to order off the menu and get separate checks with no problem. That's not very common with a roomful (30+) of Toastmasters.

Tom Coscia and John Barry got the ball rolling a few weeks ago by reserving the room and getting the code and permissions from TI. I was enlisted as the AV (audiovisual) guy, which was sort of "good news and bad news." The bad news is the glitches would be due to problems of getting my laptop to work correctly with the required software. The good news is Wendy Clothier gave the winning suggestion, and we were off and running!

As the contest began Tom and John made sure everyone had blank ballots so we could do our own judging. There were nine finalists from several countries. Of course each speech was exceptional and most of the room had selected at least two or more of the top three winners. •



Tom Coscia was feeling chagrined. It's 7 o'clock and we were having challenges.



The food was good but the networking was even better.



Tina and Sergey are brand new Toastmasters. They loved it. Our server was just amazing!



We had a private screening room, full of good Toastmasters members.



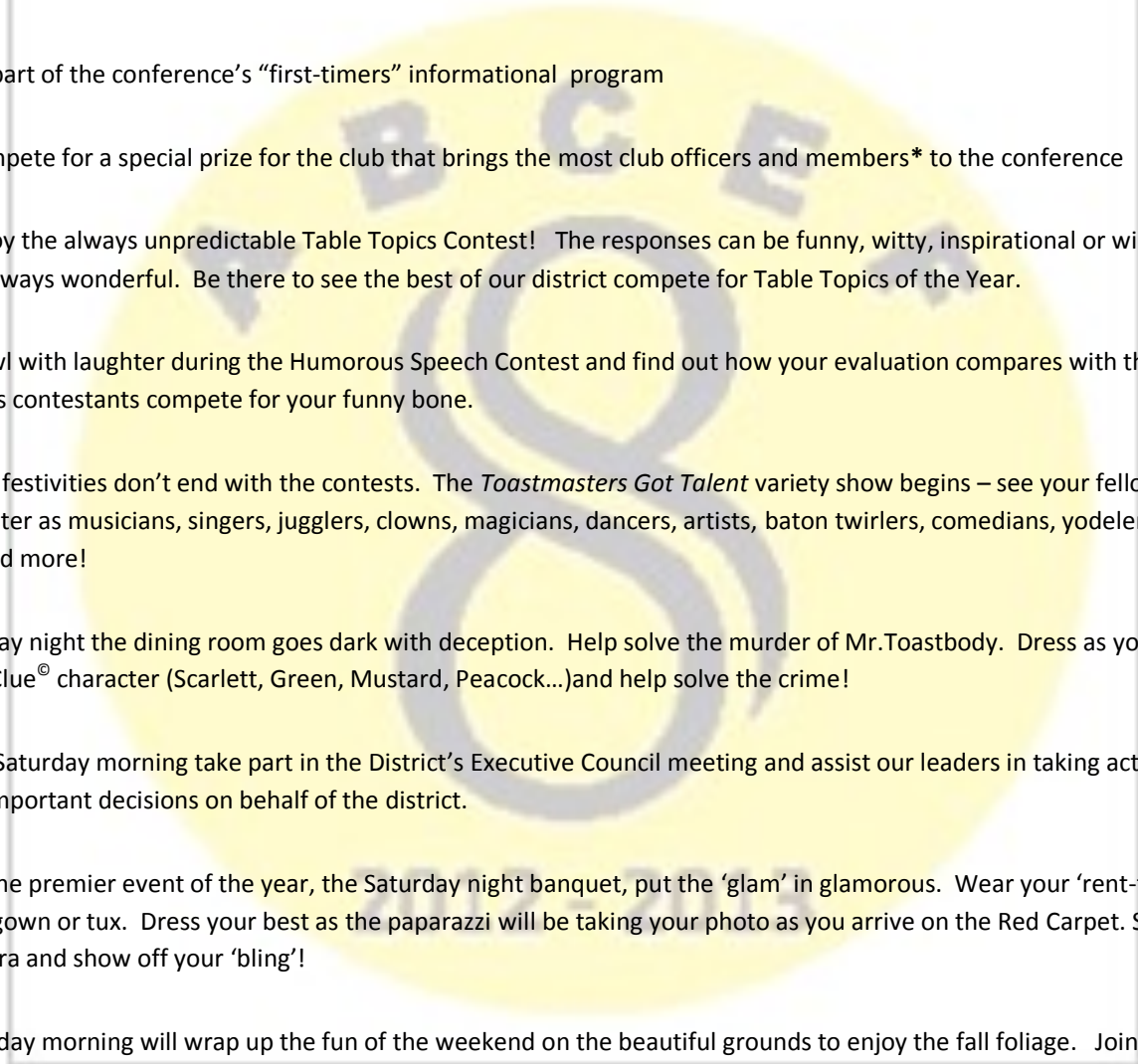









The 2012 International Champion;
Ryan Avery
presented by
John Lau
International President of Toastmasters



Forging Active Lifelong Learning

Leave with new insights, new friends, and fond memories

The District 8 Fall Conference 2012 is quickly approaching and we want you to forge ahead with insightful learning sessions, including workshops for beginners, advanced members, and all that seek to build specific skills as facilitators, trainers, and professional orators. There will also be fun and funny events for your enjoyment and networking. Numerous activities will take place to benefit Toastmasters and non-members so bring the family.

- 
-  Be part of the conference's "first-timers" informational program
 -  Compete for a special prize for the club that brings the most club officers and members* to the conference
 -  Enjoy the always unpredictable Table Topics Contest! The responses can be funny, witty, inspirational or wise but they're always wonderful. Be there to see the best of our district compete for Table Topics of the Year.
 -  Howl with laughter during the Humorous Speech Contest and find out how your evaluation compares with the official judging as contestants compete for your funny bone.
 -  The festivities don't end with the contests. The *Toastmasters Got Talent* variety show begins – see your fellow Toastmaster as musicians, singers, jugglers, clowns, magicians, dancers, artists, baton twirlers, comedians, yodelers, hog callers and more!
 -  Friday night the dining room goes dark with deception. Help solve the murder of Mr. Toastbody. Dress as your favorite Clue® character (Scarlett, Green, Mustard, Peacock...) and help solve the crime!
 -  On Saturday morning take part in the District's Executive Council meeting and assist our leaders in taking action and making important decisions on behalf of the district.
 -  At the premier event of the year, the Saturday night banquet, put the 'glam' in glamorous. Wear your 'rent-the-runway' gown or tux. Dress your best as the paparazzi will be taking your photo as you arrive on the Red Carpet. Smile for the camera and show off your 'bling'!
 -  Sunday morning will wrap up the fun of the weekend on the beautiful grounds to enjoy the fall foliage. Join in and be part of the District 8 group photo.**

More information will come to you via the Communic~8 newsletter, emails and district-wide message blasts. To volunteer or obtain more information contact Fall Conference co-chairs Taffy Cobb at ToastmasterTaffy@yahoo.com or Yolande Wood at Yolande.Wood@gmail.com.

* DEC members cannot be part of the count. **Proceeds from photo sales benefit Talu Prison Club within District 8.



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	Attendee 1 (\$105 until 10/26; \$115 after 10/26)	
	Attendee 2 ***if Household Member or Non-Toastmaster Guest (\$95 until 10/26; \$105 after 10/26)	
A La Carte Meals, Per Person: (before and after deadline date)	Friday Buffet (\$30 until 10/26; \$33 after 10/26)	
	Saturday Breakfast (\$15 until 10/26; \$17 after 10/26)	
	Saturday Lunch (\$17 until 10/26; \$20 after 10/26)	
	Saturday Dinner (\$30 until 10/26; \$33 after 10/26)	
A La Carte, Per Person: Educational Sessions & Contest Only (no meals included)	Saturday Educational Sessions (\$15 until 10/26; \$25 after 10/26)	
	Friday Contest (\$5 each) and/or Saturday Contest (\$5 each)	
	TOTAL	\$

Meal Options

Saturday Dinner (choose 1 option) For special dietary needs, please email conference@dist8tm.org	Attendee 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian
	Attendee 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Beef Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Option	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian

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.

Hotel Reservations: Pere Marquette Lodge, 13653 Lodge Boulevard, Grafton, IL 62037 * Call: (618) 786-2331. Please ask for District 8 Toastmasters' room rates. **The Room Rate** is \$89 per night (single/double occupancy) until Tuesday, November 06, 2012.

Dear District 8 Club Presidents and Club VPEs

The manual: "*When You Are the President/ Vice President Education*" describes the following standards more fully and explains how to carry them out.

Outside the Club Meeting:

- Attend and vote club's proxy at district council meetings or authorize a club member to do so.

District 8 Credential/Proxy Certificate

District Council Meeting – Saturday 11/17/2012

Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center – 13853 Lodge Boulevard, Grafton, IL 62037

8:30 - Credentials Desk Opens

10:30 – 12:00 District Council Business Meeting

At the district council business meeting, each club president and vice president education in attendance is entitled to one vote. However, if either or both officers cannot attend, they may designate, in writing, any other active member of their club to act as proxy or proxies for their club. (Use form below.) No other proxies are valid at this meeting – per Article X, Paragraph (d) of the District Administrative Bylaws.

In the event one of these officers does not attend the meeting and has not designated, in writing, an active member of the club to act as his or her proxy, the officer or proxy holder in attendance is deemed to hold the proxy of the other, and may therefore cast two votes at the meeting. This assures that every club is represented by two votes.

In addition, each district officer, including area governors, in attendance is entitled to one vote. Only district executive committee members carrying either credential or proxy certificates from their club are allowed three votes. All other members are limited to a maximum of two votes each.

(Date) Credential or Proxy Certificate _____

[*Must be submitted to Credentials Desk to obtain ballot(s)*] Certificate No. _____

1. Club name (print) _____ Club No. _____

2. Your name (print) _____

3. Your office: _____
Club president, club vice president education, area governor, other district office

4. IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND (club president and vice president education only),

indicate you're duly authorized proxy below (must be an active member of *your* club):

Name (print) _____ Date _____

Signature

Representing District 8 at TI Convention

By Tom Huling

T.S. Elliot said, "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." Toastmasters International can help you achieve your goals *and* your dreams. It has for me.

Six months ago I left a high-paying Vice President of Sales position to pursue my dream of helping people find their passion so they can live the dream of instead of the one for which they have settled. Toastmasters International was the catalyst that allowed me to take that step and move me in the direction of my dreams. Toastmasters has eliminated my fear of public speaking, given me experience and confidence speaking in front of groups and offered me the opportunity to improve my communication and leadership skills in a very supportive, nurturing and enjoyable environment.

On August 16th, 2012, I stood confidently in front of 500 people competing in the Toastmasters International Speech Competition semi-finals, an accomplishment I would not have imagined a year ago. I was assigned to Speech Contest 7. There were 10 contestants in the contest. You do not have to imagine how excited I was when my name was called to receive the second place trophy. Just look at the picture with Sandy Kardis, Lt. Governor Marketing, with Lora Mather, Lt. Governor Education and Training, and Sally Carpenter, member of Creve Coeur Toastmasters.

I want to thank everyone for their support and encouragement throughout the competition—the clubs that gave me speech time to practice



my speeches and the District 8 Toastmasters who attended Speech Contest 7. I would not have placed 2nd in the semi-finals if not for the support and feedback from my fellow toastmasters and friends. I am grateful to be part of Toastmasters and appreciate the opportunity to have represented District 8. I am looking forward to supporting next year's District 8 champion and getting our district into the finals! •

Global Connectivity—2012 International Convention—Orlando

By Farzana Chohan, Area 13 Governor



Farzana at 'white' board

In this world of instant communication and news traveling around with the speed of light, we can still not let go the power of one-on-one interaction and learning and sharing in real-time. At this year's convention, it was energizing to listen to excellent key-note speakers and attend the international speech

contests to be inspired by the best of the best speakers coming from our very own clubs.

I met wonderful people from around the world including a couple (John and his wife) in Hilton's coffee shop, as we all were trying to get some form of caffeine and sugar. As I listened to their accent, I asked, "Are you from Australia?" John was surprised I had correctly guessed their accent. He said most people usually are unable to hear the subtle differences between the Australian accent and the British English accent. Having tea later, one young lady looking for

a chair to enjoy her coffee joined me at my table. Kanny, I learned, was a first timer attending from Canada and she said she was really inspired by the speakers. I also met Arlene, an American Toastmaster living in China. The convention was truly international.

One of the significant events at the convention is an amazing parade of world flags carried into the main convention hall. The rainbow of colors created by the flags is motivational binding Toastmasters' from around the world together. Another feature of the convention is the multinational 'white' board with handwritten "welcome" messages from the attendees in their many languages from around the world.

The real power of the convention is the deep and powerful interaction between the Toastmasters from around the world. We may be from different places and may be different in many ways, but as we come together at the convention there is much more we have in common. We are Toastmasters! We embrace all diversities. We share a goal of enriching personal and professional capabilities. •

January Toastmasters Leadership Institute

Call for Trainers

Deadline: October 15, 2012

January Toastmasters Leadership Institute

January 5, 2013

Fellow Toastmasters,

- Are you looking to complete your ACS, ACG, ALB, or ALS?
- Do you need to complete a 15-20 minute speech?
- Do you want to brush up on your presentation skills?
- Are you an experienced Toastmaster?

WE WANT YOU!!!!!!!!!!

CALL FOR TRAINERS

The process is easy:

1. Submit a proposal to ccamesha@gmail.com by **October 15, 2012.**
 - a. Trainings should focus on matters pertinent to the scope and sequence of Toastmasters International. (Materials are available on TI website at: [Toastmasters International—Club Training Materials](#))
 - b. Topics should take into consideration a wide audience of expertise.
2. All trainings will be reviewed by the current District 8 TLI chairs.
3. The current TLI chairs will select trainings.

Trainings Include:

- Officer: 50 minute presentation including a Question and Answer component
- Elective: 20 minute presentation with visual aids including a Question and Answer component

Guidelines for Submitting Proposal

**** All presentation must relate to Toastmasters International Programs and Matriculation**

1. Name of the Presenter (s)
2. Email address(es) and telephone number(s) of presenter(s)
3. Area and Club
4. Toastmaster's Bio
5. Title of Training
6. Primary audience
7. Training Abstract
8. Goals of Training
9. Outcomes for trainer
10. Outcomes for audience
11. Explanation of training pertinence to Toastmasters International
12. Submit a proposal to ccamesha@gmail.com by **October 15, 2012**



District 8 members earn Education & Leadership Awards from July 1, 2012 to September 6, 2012



Division A

Chesterfield Toastmasters Club

- Polster, Barbara L.—CC

High-Noon Toastmasters Club

- Smith, Shonta M.—CC
- Earl, Kimberly A.—ACB

Marion VA Toastmasters

- Willoughby, Peggy—ALB

Maritz Toastmasters

- Darnall, Daniel A.—DTM
- Darnall, Daniel A.—ACG
- Kotur, Michael T.—ACG
- Kotur, Michael T.—ALS

Southern Illinois Toastmasters Club

- Rose, Jennifer—ACB
- Klein, Bradley Dean—CL
- Willoughby, Peggy—LDREXC
- Willoughby, Peggy—DTM
- Willoughby, Peggy—ALS
- Mill, Cynthia M.—CC

South County Toastmasters Club

- Hendrickson, Carl H.—ACB
- Paul, Jerry—CC
- Tatum, Violet E.—CC

Speak Easy Toastmasters

- Martin, Kevin L—CL

Unigroup Toastmasters Club

- Holstein, Sheryl—ALB

Division B

Aerospace Orators Club

- Thompson, Robert Chester—ALB

B.I.B.L.E. Toastmasters

- Warren, Cynthia D.—ALS
- Warren, Cynthia D.—DTM

Cable Talk Toastmasters Club

- Chohan, Farzana—ACS
- Chohan, Farzana—ACG

Cave Springs Toastmasters

- Naumann, Donna C—CC
- Sanders, Mary B.—ACB

- Siemers, Denise R.—CL

Grace Church Toastmasters

- Morrissey, Debra M.—ALS
- Morrissey, Debra M.—ALB

Little Hills Toastmasters

- Marzo, Christian—CC
- Kryvko, Barbara K.—LDREXC
- Kryvko, Barbara K.—ALS
- Blattman, Robert A.—CC

Monsanto Noontime Toastmasters

- Kryvko, Barbara K.—ALB

River City Toastmasters Club

- Waddy-Jones, Jacqueline D.—ACS
- Levins, William P.—ALS
- Levins, William P.—DTM

Save-a-Lot Toastmasters Club (SALT)

- Avery, Kriss—CL
- Russo, Dennis—CL

Shalom Church Toastmasters

- Beecham, Linda—CC

Division C

Scott Toastmasters Club

- Williams, Jeffrey A.—LDREXC

Division E

Columbia Toastmasters

- Dinalankara, Randima—CC
- Kreigh, Ralph E.—ACS

Courage to Grow Toastmasters Club

- Mateu-Mora, Venustiano—ACB

Good Neighbor Toastmasters Club

- Allen, Odessa M.—ACG

Huber Toastmasters

- Kirsch, Jeremy—CC

Ozark Orators Club

- Ng, Ean H—CC

Shelter Insurance Toastmasters

- Kuhar, Jason D—ALB

Talu Toastmasters Club

- Gibson, Kerry N.—CC
- Gibson, Kerry N.—CL
- Robinson, Maurice—ALB
- Robinson, Maurice—CC
- Licklider, William F.—ACB

Division F

Anheuser-Busch Club

- Pinner, Katherine Maria—ALB

Grand Center Club

- Lakes, Asenath P—CC

MAC Toastmasters Club

- Rogers, Brian—CC

Missouri Toast of the Town Club

- Cobb, Talfanita M.—ALS
- Stevens, Casetta—ACG
- Cobb, Talfanita M.—ACG
- Cobb, Talfanita M.—DTM

MOCO Toastmasters

- Lee, Suzanne R.—ALB

Primary Conversations

- Smith, Pierre—ACB
- Bowe, Cornelius—ACB

Sigma-Aldrich Toastmasters Club

- Davis, Angela M.—CC

Solae Toastmasters Club

- Calloway, Jeremy—CL

Speech Masters Toastmasters Club

- Archibald, Cheryl Lynn—CC

Voices In Unity Club

- Anderson, Claire—CL

Wells Fargo Advisors Toastmasters

- Francis, Rachel M.—ALB
- Ghodrati, Pamela H.—CL

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Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club Extends Invitation

By President Joann York—Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club #4115

On August 11, 2012 a small group gathered at the Lincoln Library in Springfield, IL to attend a special workshop, *Bring Your Photos to Life*, sponsored by the Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club #4115. Our distinguished speaker was Kevin Desrosiers who has taken fabulous photographs for District 8 over the last several years and is officially the District 8 Photographer. Kevin provided tips, provided advice and provided guidance on how we can take better photographs using any camera. I walked away with new knowledge, better strategies and am looking forward to taking fantastic photos with using his advice. Our club thanks Kevin for taking the time to make the drive and share his bountiful knowledge of photography with those in attendance.

Kevin Desrosiers, DTM was one of our “guest” speakers who has presented at our special workshops this year. There will be more as the year continues. While Kevin is not a current member of our club, we extended our personal invitation to him to become a member as we extend our invitation to every District 8 Toastmaster to join our historically significant club.

Our club, affectionately referred to by its members as the *Smedley Club*, was created to pay tribute to Toastmasters

International founder Ralph Smedley who was born inside the boundaries of District 8 in the small town of Waverly, Illinois. Many years ago, long before I had found my way to Toastmasters, 20 distinguished members of District 8 gathered in Waverly, IL to create this special club. Originally, this club was an “advanced” only club; now we are open to one and all.

The *Smedley Club* is not your average Toastmasters’ club, but it is a club worth joining. We now regularly meet at Myra’s Homestyle Restaurant off I-55 near Divernon, IL (exit 82) the first Sunday in March, May, July, October and December. For the other months of the year, we plan dual meetings or special workshops such as Kevin’s presentation.

As the current President of this historically significant club I extend an invitation to you to become a *Smedley* member. We’d love to have you at a future meeting at Myra’s or at any of our “special” meetings. •



Standing behind the “Smedley” dedicated lectern in Waverly, IL park



Farzana Chohan and her niece



Sandy Kardis and Lora Mather at speech contest



Sally Carpenter with Ryan Avery, 1st Place Contest Winner



Farzana Chohan, Sally Carpenter, and Chuck Carpenter

More Photos from 2012 International Convention

The Very Model of a Humorous Speech Acceptance Speech

By Howard Price, ACS, ALB

So by a complete surprise, you find you've not only entered your club's Humorous Speech contest, but you've also won it. Now what? As you shuffle up to the lectern as slowly as possible, forcing that grateful smile, your brain is feverishly working out an acceptance speech. "Does it have to be funny? Does it have to be disarming? What's the usual 'song and dance' that's expected here?"

Well, instead of worrying about the usual 'song and dance,' why not surprise them with an unusual—and *actual*—song and dance! All together now ...

I am the very model of a Toastmaster Comedian.
 My topics run the gamut from conformist to Bohemian.
 Through clever wit and puns and grammar usage economical
 I've proved to one and all I've mastered oratory comical.

My times behind the lectern have been noticeably numerous.
 I've given no one cause to doubt I'm personally humorous.
 And now I take my talents to the judges of the Area.
 (Area? Diphtheria, Malaria ... ah-ha!)

If you don't bring the funny, rest assured that I will bury ya!
If you don't bring the funny, rest assured that he will bury ya!
If you don't bring the funny, rest assured that he will bury ya!
If you don't bring the funny, rest assured that he will bury-bury ya!

I'll bring a rubber chicken if I need to use a visual.
 I'll keep it clean and move along with segues pro-transitional.
 In short on topics ranging from conformist to Bohemian
 I am the very model of a Toastmaster comedian.

In short on topics ranging from conformist to Bohemian
He is the very model of a Toastmaster comedian!

My speeches cover everything mundane and esoterical.
 I've given each a tweak to make the silly seem hysterical.
 It's true on some occasions I've told jokes that may have fallen flat.
 But when I win a ribbon there's no one who will remember that.

Don't think that I'm ungrateful or I'm taking my award too light.
 I'm honored to be chosen as your comic delegate tonight.
 I merely opt to celebrate my victory with this medley,
 (Medley? Readily, headily ... ah-ha!)

And bring a smile to people in the name of old Ralph Smedley!
And bring a smile to people in the name of old Ralph Smedley!
And bring a smile to people in the name of old Ralph Smedley!
And bring a smile to people in the name of old Ralph Smedl-Smedley!

I've utilized conventions both sarcastic and rhetorical,
 Prognosticated future paths and culled from the historical
 But is this poem leaning toward conformist or Bohemian?
 I wonder what they think about this Toastmaster Comedian.

(Continued on page 15)



At the convention Curtis Scroggins, Lora Mather, Mike Barsul (Region 2 International Candidate) and Sandy Kardis

(Continued from page 14)

*But is this poem leaning toward conformist or Bohemian?
We wonder what they think about this Toastmaster Comedian.*

But ...

My tongue is planted in my cheek when I satirically opine.
My Icebreakers can melt the hearts of all but the most saturnine.
With gentle japes and jibes I make my audience my paramour.
In case you haven't noticed I'm a bit of an attention (*coughing fit*)

No subject's so off limits that my humor will not take the chance:
Superheroes, pizza, painting, grandkids, Warcraft, belly dance.
In short, I know my Toastmaster addiction looks like a disease,
(Disease? Trapeze, Reprise ... Reprise? Mm, not sure anyone wants that ... ah-ha! I have it!)
But one day should I stay the course I'll stand beside Demosthenes.

*A sentiment we all agree, he'll stand beside Demosthenes!
A sentiment we all agree, he'll stand beside Demosthenes!
A sentiment we all agree, he'll stand beside Demos-Demosthenes!*

And when I represent us to the District 8 conventioners.
Regardless if I'm champion or mere honorable mentioner,
I know in matters ranging from conformist to Bohemian,
I am the very model of a Toastmaster Comedian!

*We know in matters ranging from conformist to Bohemian
He is the very model of a Toastmaster Comedian! •*

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

District 8 is on the web.

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 International Conventions:

- Cincinnati, OH: August 21—24, 2013
- Kuala, Lumpur: August 20—23, 2014

To learn more about TI Conventions, check www.toastmasters.org

Upcoming Events:

November

16-17th—District 8 Fall Conference

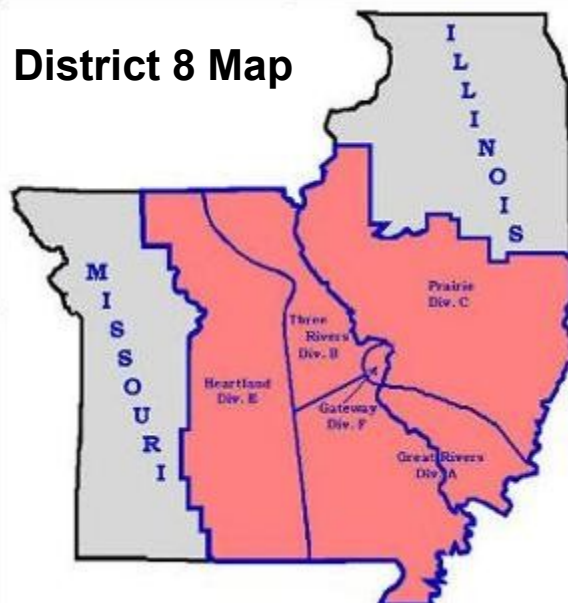
*Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center
Grafton, IL*

January

5th—District 8 TLI

*Downtown Crowne Plaza Hotel
200 North 4th St., St Louis, MO*

District 8 Map



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

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