



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

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Communic~8

Volume 13 Issue 2

District 8

September 2013

District 8 is on the web

www.dist8tm.org

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First Timer's Perspective

By Chandan Unchageri, DTM

I am a big fan of the James A Baldwin quote, "No one can possibly know what is about to happen: it is happening each time, for the first time, for the only time." It keeps me motivated to push myself toward

new horizons and inspires me to try new things. At District 8's Spring Conference, I heard the 2013 Toastmasters International Convention would be in Cincinnati this year, I knew I could fulfill my big dream of witnessing the "World Champion of Public Speaking" contest.

As I walked into the convention center in Cincinnati, I saw Toastmasters from around the world gathered. My first impression was this would be a great melting pot for culture, ages, geography and people with Toastmasters in common. It was an exciting time with an international appeal that included workshops, training, business meetings, elections and the climax event crowning the World Champion Public Speaker! District 8 was well represented with at least 20 members in attendance. For someone, like me, this was my first time at a convention and for others it was a continuation of many years of service, learning, leading and friendship. As a first timer, one of the overwhelmingly wonderful things about a Toastmasters Convention was all the positivity—everyone was delighted to be there! People were smiling and greeting old friends and ready to make new ones. Everyone you met was more than willing to strike up a conversation and the conversation typically started with "So, where is District 8?" Another thing that impressed me was the camaraderie apparent between our elected Toastmasters International Board Members. They freely shared laughter and praise, whether on a panel, mixing in the crowd, presenting on stage or presenting leadership training.

There were plenty of variety in educational opportunities at the International Convention. I learned ways to warm up my voice and ways to use my voice more effectively. I learned more details on club officer training, about website design changes, speech design and attended a speech writing practicum. I learned how to dress comfortably for presentations and even ways to avoid wardrobe malfunctions. A value added to these presentations, most of these presenters were real life entrepreneurs, professional speakers, trainers, coaches and authors who really knew what they were talking about.

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**Lora Mather, DTM**

District 8 Governor

District 8

EMAIL: DG@dist8tm.org

A Message from the Governor

Our number one priority is **service to you, our member**. You are a product of a program that works and is always improving. Your success is a focus on goal-setting and strategic planning at the personal level. Our district's success is this same focus at our club level, area level, division level and district level.

Our metrics for evaluating our success at the district level changed two years ago from a rather complicated point system to a much simplified three prong measurement tool.

- 1) *Distinguished club status measured by percent of distinguished clubs by June 30*
- 2) *New club growth measured by number of new clubs chartered during the year*
- 3) *Member growth and retention measured by number of payments during the year*



Distinguished Clubs

I believe that every one of our clubs has the potential to earn President's Distinguished Club status. The Distinguished Club Program provides the guidelines in this document [Distinguished Club Program](#). To achieve this status, our club members must set their personal goal for this year and fit them into your club's plan. Post your club plan and keep it visible. Goals that are posted become goals that are bested. It is thrilling to meet and exceed our personal goals. The next time you see me, introduce yourself and tell me your personal goal for this year. And then share it with others. When others know your goal, the magic of teamwork happens.

New Club Growth

I believe that every workplace or community is the perfect environment to grow a new club. Furthermore, every member contributes to creating a new club. When your friendly chats turn to what's new with you—talk up your Toastmaster experience. Tell them about your club. Invite them to visit and then encourage them to start a club for themselves. When your club meetings are convenient in location and time, it is much easier to make the time for ourselves and to invest in our own development and growth. [New Club Basic Information](#)

Membership Growth and Retention

I believe that most members come to their first meeting to improve themselves, but they stay because of the improvements they witness in others. Seeing a friend succeed and grow in self-confidence is the zing for new members to join and seasoned members to stay and lead. Membership growth begins with your club meeting experience. Just as evaluation is the cornerstone of our personal growth, it is the foundation of club growth. Volunteer to lead your club through the [Moments-of-Truth](#) session now.

Our three prong approach strategy is based on teamwork and collaboration. It provides many rewards (not just a President's Distinguished District) but personal rewards that add purpose and meaning to our lives.

I love creating and maintaining friendships through teamwork and more collaboration. Work with us this year, set your personal goal to contribute to your club plan and together we will fly high. 🌟

**Sandra Kardis, DTM**Lt. Governor Education & Training
District 8

EMAIL: LGET@dist8tm.org

A Message from the LGET

After family and church, I am passionate about Toastmasters and baseball.

Babe Ruth said, "Baseball was, is and always will be to me the best game in the world." I say Toastmasters was, is and always will be to me the best organization to become better speakers and leaders.

Spring Training is a series of practices and exhibition games preceding the start of the regular season. For District 8 club officers, spring training began with officer training—Early Bird Training on June 1, TLI District Training on June 29, and division, area, and one-on-one training sessions. 442 officers have been trained for the first round June 1 through August 31. Twenty-four clubs hit a home run by having all 7 officers trained in the first round! When they have all 7 officers trained the second round, they will qualify for the Lucky 7 Award and will have hit a grand slam.

District 8 leadership training was in Cincinnati, Ohio on August 19th and 20th. Those two days were packed with sessions starting with breakfast at 7:00 am and ending at 5:00 pm. I learned the most during the sessions on Knowing My Role as LGET, Planning for Success with Goal-Setting Tools, and Hot Topics where I met with individuals discussing training and membership retention. A couple of ideas that I am going to promote are educational sessions on what it takes to be an Area Governor, good evaluations, and the HPL—High Performance Leadership project. I also like the idea of calling TLI a Membership and Education Leadership Expo to promote attendance by all District 8 Toastmasters.

Think of me as a baseball fan as I enjoyed attending many of the convention events which took place after training. Several events stood out: the interviews of the candidates for Second Vice President and International Directors, the Board of Directors briefing, the speech contest semi-finals where I was a judge for one of the contests, the Toastmasters International World Championship of Public Speaking where the nine finalists competed, and the annual business meeting where I cast 2 votes using the Option Finder.

As a sports editor, Sandy Kardis, my question during the interviews was how to deal with the challenges of college clubs such as collecting dues, training officers, and recruiting members since these occur when students are not in session. There were good suggestions, but the best response actually came during the Board of Directors briefing. The College and Universities Committee recommendations are: a customized calendar, revision of dues policy, revision of training policy and enhancements to marketing. Toastmasters International believes young people are the gateway to expanding Toastmasters.

Baseball managers assess what the team can do to focus on their goals—having a winning season and getting to the World Series. Toastmasters International would like every club to present *Moments of Truth* from the Successful Club

*(Continued on page 11)*

**Debra Morrissey, DTM**Lieutenant Governor Marketing
District 8

EMAIL: LGM@dist8tm.org

A Message From the LGM

As an incoming Lt Governor Marketing, I was looking forward to going to my first Toastmasters International Convention and Leadership Training. My expectations were rewarded with meeting my counter-parts from around the world.



Opening Ceremony was thrilling! Lora carried one of the many flags down the center aisle and placed it among all of the others on the stage. The flags served as a backdrop for the major events during the convention. They really brought home the fact that we are Toastmasters INTERNATIONAL.

I attended all the events during the convention. That allowed me the opportunity to hear the thoughts from many accomplished communicators. I came away full of ideas, but wishing I had a video recording of everything I saw and heard. I really enjoyed seeing the World Championship of Public Speaking in person.

Again, the best part was meeting Toastmasters from other parts of the country and the world. I was happy that everyone I spoke with had a great command of the English language. I now feel like I have pals from all over. We exchanged business cards and have begun communicating over LinkedIn, Facebook and email. I found that Toastmasters from all over the world have several things in common. We are friendly, positive, supportive and happy to speak to each other. I found that even Toastmasters at the highest level share those traits.

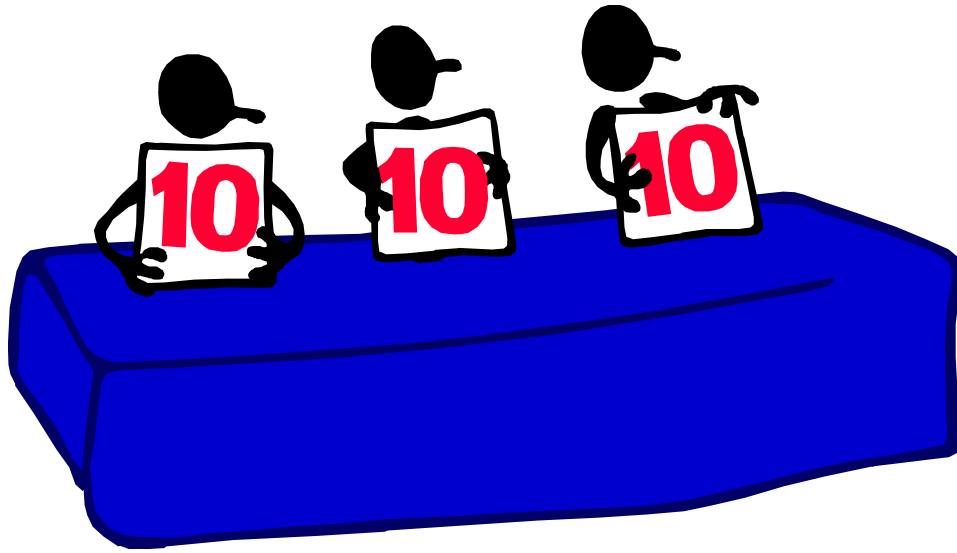
The two formal dinners that I attended were full of pomp and circumstance. Everyone came out in their finest attire. The meals were delicious!

I arrived on Sunday because training was provided for the Senior Team on Monday and Tuesday. Days were certainly full! Since the convention began on Wednesday, my roommate, Jeanette Lynch, arrived then. It was so nice to share a room with a buddy. We talked into the night, sacrificing sleep for friendship. It was worth it!

I highly recommend attending Toastmasters International Convention. It is wonderful to meet other Toastmasters and hear the heart of our Toastmaster leaders.

Debra Morrissey, Lt. Governor Marketing 🌟





District 8 Fall Contest Judges Training

Saturday, September 28, 2013

9:00a.m. – 11:00a.m.

Missouri College – Third Floor, Room 18

1405 S. Hanley

Brentwood, MO 63144-2902

RSVP by Thursday, September 26 to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JudgesTraining09282013>

This training is for you:

- ❖ if you have never judged at a club, area, division or district speech contest
- ❖ if you are a speech contestant and want to know what the judging items are
- ❖ if you haven't judged for a while and want to refresh your judging skills

Here's your opportunity to learn the difference between judging and evaluating, the five traits of a good judge, judging expectations and categories, and the qualifications for judges. You will start using this training by participating in a mock contest.



"An Unforgettable Journey"

By Matt Prose

When I joined Toastmasters at the end of last year, I did so with the intention of gaining accountability in improving my public speaking. Little did I know back then the journey I was about to go on.

On August 22nd I was honored to represent District 8 in the International Speech Contest held in Cincinnati at the Toastmaster Convention. I competed in Semi Final 8 and shared the stage with competitors from around the world. This was an exciting and surreal experience that I will never take for granted. I am truly humbled and thankful for all of the support that I received from my family, my church, and my district. Thank you to all the clubs that allowed me to practice throughout the summer months and for your valuable feedback. Most importantly I would like to thank my home club, St. Charles County Toastmasters, for being with me every step of the way.

These past 7 months of preparation have been far more valuable to me than just 7 minutes on a stage. With every contest I learned something new about myself, and met some fantastic people. I am grateful for what this experience has allowed me to become and for all the relationships I have built along the way. I look forward to becoming more involved in Toastmasters in multiple ways and helping others to achieve their goals, just as others have helped me. This truly has been a journey I will never forget. ☺



District 8 at the 82nd Toastmasters International Convention—Cincinnati, OH

By The Numbers!

- **1** fantastic District 8 International Speech Contestant - Matthew Prose!
- **3** District 8 senior team members interviewing International candidates, sitting through 2 days of leadership training and challenging ourselves to create the path for District 8 success!
- **5** family and friends of District 8 members- cheering and supporting their loved ones!
- **22** District 8 members meeting new friends, listening and learning about International, shopping and eating in downtown Cincinnati!
- **17** District 8 clubs reaping the benefits of members with stories to tell!
- Over **100+** opportunities to hear the world's best speakers and trainers
- Over **400** years of Toastmaster member experience to which 4 days of the 82nd International Convention experience was added!



Who did we see in Cincinnati?

Anderson	Bobbie	DTM
Boeckmann	Vernon	ACG, ALB
Carpenter	Charles	DTM, PID
Carpenter	Sally	ACB
Clothier	Wendy	ACS, ALB
Coscia	Tom	DTM
Kardis	Sandy	DTM
Kerwin	Mary	DTM
Kincade	David	
Lynch	Jeanette	DTM
Mather	Lora	DTM
Morrissey	Debra	DTM
Prose	Matthew	
Scroggins	Curtis	DTM
Scroggins	Cynthia	DTM
Strothmann	Mark	CC, ALB
Swanson	Catherine	ACS
Swearingen	Sandra	ATMG
Tucker	Dawn	DTM
Tucker	J.L.	
Unchageri	Chandan	DTM
Williams	Lynne	ATM, CL



International Speech Contest Party on August 24, at the Sports Cafe Restaurant in Bridgeton By Jerry Chapman

The room was filled with excited Toastmasters from all over the District. The food was good, the company was energetic and fun, and the International competitors were extra special this year. Each of us in the audience received ballots, and we judged the speakers, just like the official judges.

After it was all over and the winners were announced, it turned out that our judges agreed with the official judging. What fun! Here are some photos of the action:



An ideal venue for this sort of get-together.



Co-Hosts Jerry Chapman and John Barry

Congratulations to Presiyan Vasilev, 2013 World Champion of Public Speaking



The title of **2013 World Champion of Public Speaking** was awarded to **Presiyan Vasilev** (pictured center) of Chicago, Illinois, District 30, for his speech "**Changed by a Tire.**" Second and third-place winners were, respectively, **Kingi Biddle** (pictured right) of Rotorua, New Zealand, District 72, for his speech "**The Sitting Place**" and **Shurooq AlBanna** (pictured left) of Dubai, UAE, District 20, for her speech "**Finding the Pearl.**" 🌟





(Continued from page 3)

Series during a Moments of Truth campaign during September 1 to December 31 and January 1 to April 30. Club Presidents download *Moments of Truth* from www.toastmasters.org/momentsoftruth, present it to your club and complete a survey. You will be notified when the survey is ready. What's in it for you? You will sharpen your club focus on your most important goal—member service and personal satisfaction, have your club recognized on the district website and be awarded a certificate.

Last year District 8 made it to the World Series, but we lost the final game. We were down 2 paid clubs and 62 membership payments to be a Distinguished District.

Let's give it all we've got! If we focus on club excellence and club quality, we can win the District 8 World Series in 2013-2014 year. It takes 45 Distinguished clubs, 4,707 membership payments and 115 clubs. I already hear Jack Buck saying, "That's a Winner!"

Sandy ☼



District 8 Governor Lora Mather carrying flag at Toastmasters International Convention (above). Photos to right, show Lora receiving award.



District 8 – TLI – “Express Yourself....Lead the Way”

By Elaine Curry

On June 29, 2013, Toastmaster's Leadership Institute held its semi-annual TLI training & conference on the premises of Wells Fargo Advisors University in downtown St. Louis. The co-chairs, Lemont and Elaine Curry, were very pleased with the turnout. Approximately 300 toastmasters and guests came together for a time of networking, training, and appreciating a motivational speaker. The venue was given high praise from those in attendance. Attendees enjoyed the continental breakfast selection and appreciated having the opportunity to sit around tables in a well-lit area to fellowship before the opening with the keynote speaker.



Aprille Turpiano was our keynote speaker who provided an inspiring and uplifting talk **“3 Keys to Lead the Way to Excellence”**. Feedback received from our survey indicated that her message and delivery was a hit. Aprille is an ex-Toastmaster who is now a Radio and TV show host and is a recognized international expert on leadership.

Lamont and I wish to personally thank all the District 8 leaders that stepped up to the plate and facilitated a training session.

Trainers included District 8 Governor Elect Lora Mather who facilitated President training. Other facilitators were: Gert Baldwin, Sandy Kardis, Jeanette Lynch, Tom Coscia, Jerry Hoeflein, Kenny Freeman, Lemont Curry, Cathy Babis, Chandan Unchageri, Debra Morrissey, Elaine Curry, Farzana Chohan, Herman Koester and Taffy Cobb.

We all learned a great deal through the sessions. The elective sessions were not only informative but fun. Our regret is that you could only attend one since they were all in session 3! 🌟

Youth Leadership Program

Every young person has the potential to become a great communicator and leader, but this potential needs to be developed. Dan Darnall, DTM, PDG and Mike Kotur, DTM recently coordinated a Youth Leadership Program for thirteen participants. The program's six-session workshop-style design enabled the students to develop their potential through practical experience.

We were fortunate to have support from the District as well as help from our guest speakers Taffy Cobb and Aruna Garlapaty.

During the final week a special presentation banquet allowed the students to display their new skills in front of their parents and guests. Dr. Mehrotra, the current 11th grade Principal at Lafayette High School, was an invited speaker at the event. We are extremely proud of each student and were able to witness exciting presentations and were happy to recognize them for their achievements in the program.

We recommend coordinating a Youth Leadership session. It is very fulfilling to be a positive influence in the development of our youth.

Dan Darnall and Mike Kotur 🌟



HEARTLAND TLI OVERWHELMING SUCCESS

"It won't be business as usual", said Division Governor Kenny Freeman in his opening remarks.

Over forty Toastmasters and guests attended the Heartland Toastmasters Leadership Institute satellite session on July 13. It was hosted by the Downtown Toastmasters Club at Missouri United Methodist Church in Columbia Missouri. The fact that this was a satellite TLI did not dissuade Division Governor Freeman. Among attendees were District Governor Lora Mather, Lt. Governor Education Sandra Kardis and Immediate-Past District Governor Curtis Scroggins who gave the keynote address.

The promise that no deed would be left unrewarded was also demonstrated during the opening session with plaques of recognition presented to outgoing division governor Frank Yates for his service to the division, outgoing Asst. Area 7 Governor Cynthia Scroggins in recognition of the area achieving President's Distinguished status, and a special recognition by an officer of U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill to Curtis Scroggins acknowledging his five years of district leadership to Missouri Toastmasters.

Trainers for the institute included Frank Yates, Leigh Britt, Ed Allen, Ron Smith, Natalie Meighan, Gert Baldwin, David Mallory, Ralph Kreigh, and Kenny Freeman. Educational items were also available for purchase at the institute by Kat Mokriakow and Past-District Governor Tim Spezia who opened the District Bookstore for business throughout the day.

Debbie Lacy-Anderson served as Toastmaster of the day. Special thanks to Judith LaRose, served as hospitality chairperson ensuring that the training environment was friendly, warm and supportive to all who attended.

Kenneth D. Freeman
Division E Governor 🌟



IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR SCHOTTMAN



On July 8, 2013, Arthur B. Schottman passed away in Effingham, IL. At his passing Art was 101 years old and a member of the Effingham Toastmasters Club within District 8.

According to Dale Fitzpatrick a friend and club member, Art met his second wife through joint

meetings between Effingham Toastmistresses and Effingham Toastmasters. He said, "Art was 90 and Lutheran and she was 80 and Catholic. He announced at the wedding that they had agreed to raise their daughters Catholic and their sons Lutheran."

(Excerpt from Effingham Daily News from 7/10/2013)

Arthur was born June 22, 1912 on a farm in rural Montrose. He worked on a family farm and the family chick hatchery in Effingham. He was a sales supervisor for a farm seed company and also worked as an accountant in the Chicago area. Arthur taught in the East Richland (Olney) High School, Vandalia High School and MacArthur High School in Decatur. He retired from Kaskaskia College in Centralia as a business instructor.

He was a member of the Effingham American Legion Post 120 and the Effingham VFW Post 1769. Arthur served in the Army Air Force during World War II as a Link Trainer Instructor and was a Statistical Officer in Europe, while serving as Captain with the 334th Bomb Group, 9th Army Air Force.

The above is only an excerpt of the activities and involvements Art had in his community. Like most Toastmasters in District 8 Art was engaged with others and with organizations. At the age of 101, he continued to participate in the Effingham Toastmasters Club. He will be missed. ☸

Never Forget

By Joann York, ACS ALS—Communic~8 Editor

Like many others on 9/11, as we marked 12 years since our nation suffered an attack on our soil by terrorists, I stopped to remember. America, we learned on that September day was not invincible. We could be hurt. We could be attacked.

Life changed for us in big and small ways. More security everywhere and less freedom, but it is all for our own good we are told. We went to war on "terror" and "terror" can be anywhere and come at any time. We limit our liquids to bottles smaller than 4-ounces for our carry-on packing. The indignities of body scanners and marching around barefoot in the airports. Now we learn our emails are "screened" and phone calls "monitored." Objection to the reduction of liberties is tantamount to being labeled a terrorist. For if you don't have anything to hide, why should you care if they read your email or listen to your calls. Right?

Twelve years, the time it takes our children to reach high school graduation. Twelve years, a blink of the eye or a lifetime. In only twelve years, life in America has changed tremendously. Technology has played a dramatic part of the changes. Now, we "tweet," we "Facebook," we are "LinkedIn," we share EVERYTHING! Maybe that is why reduction in our privacies for the younger Americans is deemed insignificant because they willingly share everything with everyone. To me, an old fuddy-duddy, my privacy is a right that I believe should be preserved. It is the 4th Amendment, "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause " Where is the probable cause? Where did I do anything wrong to "monitor" my calls or "screen" my emails? Public safety, I know and I want the public to be safe, but can that only be done by the government taking liberties with my "rights?"

We took it to the terrorists, but why does it feel like the terrorists and the government are taking it to us? Never forget! Never forget America is an exceptional country with exceptional people. America is exceptional because of our freedoms, our rights, our bravery and our history. Never forget those that have fought for our freedoms and our rights. Never forget we are the shining beacon of freedom on that hill. If we forget, if we surrender our freedoms and our rights for protection against terrorists we turn out that light. We dishonor our history. We dishonor those brave men and women who fought valiantly for our freedoms.

Words matter and a speech powerfully delivered can have an impact. Have you heard John F. Kennedy's words, Winston Churchill's or George W. Bush's following the tragedy of 9/11? Words can change the mood, they can change the world. Never forget we, as Toastmasters, can make an impact and a difference. ☸

New DG
Blog!

Sign up now for the new District Governor “blog” on the D8 website.

Expect a weekly post about the journey of the District 8 Governor.

Check Out Your Updated District Website

www.dist8tm.org

Tom Coscia, DTM, PDG

As the new District Webmaster, my job is to maintain a one-stop website to find Toastmaster documents and information quickly and easily. Besides District 8 info, I try to include popular items from TI's website. There is a ton of great information on the TI website but it sometimes can be overwhelming to find items. The district website is much smaller in scope which can make it easier to search for documents like contest forms and membership applications.

Some highlights:

Home Page: I include a small slide show of district activities: Currently the show is District 8 at the annual convention.

Our Team: Includes photos of all of the Division Governors and most of the Area Governors. This can be handy if you need to know what they look like.

Calendar: Now includes a choice of formats: Besides having a straight listing of all upcoming activities, I also include the activities in a calendar format.

Contests: All of the Area and Division contest info is posted here. They are also listed in the calendar section.

Contest and Judging: Contest scripts and all contest forms are available to print. I also included links to judge's training and a great training video from TI entitled, "When You're The Judge" that should be required viewing for all judges.

Find A District 8 Club: Want to see a list of all District 8 Clubs or find out contact info or where they meet? This is an easy link that lists them all District 8 clubs in alphabetical order.

Communic~8: View the current Communic~8 plus many of the back issues.

For Club Members: A list of Toastmaster acronyms and a link to updating your Toastmaster profile. For fun I also included an electronic speech timer.

For Club Officers: Added the Club Leadership Handbook, membership application, and a great manual on using Club Central on the TI website. For Club Presidents there is also a new member induction script and a presiding officer script. There is a link to the club dashboard on the TI website.

For District Officers: I included the Area Governor Visit form, club officer training material, District Leadership Handbook, and the District Procedures manual. There is a quick link so you can see who has earned educational achievements or which new clubs were chartered for 2013-14. You can quickly see the district dashboard. Forms are also included like the expense voucher and our Missouri Tax-Exemption letter which is password protected. Contact myself or the Treasurer for the password.

District Resources: Included free links to download from TI the Better Speaker Series, the Leadership Excellence Series, the Successful Club Series plus a link to all free TI downloads.

I spent many hours combing through other district websites for ideas. So check it out. And if there is something you would like to me add, just drop me an email: webmaster@dist8tm.org 📧

SPONSORS – MENTORS – COACHES

I have been asked what the differences are between Sponsors, Mentors and Coaches and what the similarities are. The biggest similarities are that all three support Toastmaster members and invest in the future of Toastmasters. They all require experienced Toastmasters that are willing to share their expertise. They all earn credit toward the Advanced Leader Silver award.



The duties of a Sponsor include: Organize the new club, set up regular club meetings and help the new club complete and submit their initial charter paperwork. The Sponsor stays with the club until it is chartered. They pass the baton of support and development of the new club to the mentors, once their responsibilities are complete. Every new club has at least one Club Sponsor but may have two.

The Club Mentor(s) stay with the club in the beginning after the club is chartered. It's advantageous if the Mentor(s) begin attending meetings once the club begins to meet. That way the club learns to depend on the Mentor(s). The Mentor(s) stay with the club for a minimum of six months. Club Mentors help the new club learn to be a Toastmasters Club.



Club Coaches can be requested when an existing club falls to 12 or fewer members. Coaches cannot be existing members of the struggling club. Coaches help the club achieve Distinguished status. If the club does not achieve Distinguished in the first year, the Club Coach(s) can remain with the club for a second year.

Club Mentors and Club Coaches are appointed by the District Governor.

Debra Morrissey—Lt. Governor Marketing 🌟

(Continued from page 1)

Then the highlight, for me and most others at the convention—the World Championship of Public Speaking contest (WCPS). It was eye opening to me, there were 90 district champions in the preliminary, semi-final rounds who were then filtered to the crème de la crème for the final contest. I gained a whole new perspective on how difficult it is to become the World Champion. Kudos to those who competed as the competition was intense. The Contest Master Mohammad Muraad was incredibly humorous and I witnessed eight great speeches in the finals and the ultimate award winning fantastic speech. The energy, enthusiasm and effective delivery that each of the contestants displayed was at an altogether different level from contest speeches I have seen before and I would like to rise to that level myself.

The closing event, “the Presidents Dinner and Dance” was the icing on the cake! It was fantastic fun and a food experience. It was wonderful to watch all the International Officers from various countries walk the red carpet to the dinner area. Their inspiring words conveyed to every Toastmaster what they see as the future goals and role of Toastmasters International in developing quality leaders around the globe. Now about the food, it was incredible with delicious entrees and mouth watering desserts. At the District 8 table we recorded videos detailing our feelings about attending the International Convention—expect to see those clips on the District 8 website. And then we danced—we danced the night away to the catchy tunes played by the DJ. Toastmasters is about learning and having fun—the convention lived up to that for me!

The moment I stepped outside my club, I began to realize how much more I could get out of my Toastmasters membership. Yes, speeches, evaluations and table topics are the foundation on which effective communication is built, but if you only attend your club meetings you are only getting a quarter of the potential Toastmasters offers you. Outside the club, you will discover opportunities for further leadership development, speech contests to organize and execute. I discovered opportunities to stretch my skills by competing with peers. I found education and motivation at the International Convention. You owe it to yourself to get all you can from your membership, so check the district calendar and attend your Area and Division contests and especially the District 8 Conferences. You won't regret it! If you are like me you will receive a return of four-fold or more on your Toastmasters membership. 🌟



District 8 Fall Conference

November 22 – 23, 2013

**St. Louis Union Station Hotel
1820 Market Street
St. Louis, MO 63103**

It's your Toastmaster's journey and the Toastmasters you meet along the way.

Our District 8 Fall Conference 2013 is quickly approaching. We want you to travel to St. Louis Union Station Hotel where numerous activities will take place for your benefit and enjoyment.

Compete for a prize for traveling the farthest distance to the conference.

Deliver a manual speech about the spring conference at your club as a means to persuade your fellow club members to attend this conference and receive a 10% discount on your registration.

Enjoy listening to Tom Dowd, Friday night's keynote speaker, who will speak on "Transformation Time with Transformation Tom." Tom is a two-time reigning Table Topics champion.

Be there to see the best of District 8's Table Topics contestants and Humorous Speech contestants.

It's not all festivities. Take part in the District 8 Executive Council meeting on Saturday morning.

More information will be coming to you via the October Communic-8 newsletter, emails and district-wide message blasts. To volunteer, contact Fall Conference co-chairs Rachel Francis at rachel.francis@wellfargoadvisors.com and Richard Porter at richard.porter@sial.com. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.



District 8 Members Earn Education & Leadership Awards from July 1, 2013 to September 11, 2013



Division A

DSAGSL WORD Masters

- Kotur, Michael T.—LDREXC
- Kotur, Michael T.—ALS
- Kotur, Michael T.—ACS
- Kotur, Michael T.—ACG
- Kotur, Michael T.—DTM

High-Noon Toastmasters Club

- Legrand, Christy S.—CC
- Mulholland, Jason D.—ACB
- Burlison, Bill D.—ALS

Marion VA Toastmasters

- Schafsnitz, Laura—ALB

Maritz Toastmasters

- Darnall, Daniel A.—CL

Mastertoasters Club

- Steinbach, Carol C—ALB
- Mitchell, Marc E—CL
- Jones, William Curtis—CC
- Kirby, Reid D—CC

South County Toastmasters Club

- Clair, Donald—ACS
- Gopinath, Sudarshan (sudi) - CC
- Fawcett, Diane M.—CL
- Gissel, Erin C.—ACB
- Wilkins, David M—CC

Speak Easy Toastmasters

- Kalbac, Jeffrey S.—CL
- Smith, Robert L.—ACS
- Darnall, Daniel A.—CC
- Darnall, Daniel A.—ALB

UniGroup Toastmasters Club

- Nosko, Linda—ACG

West County Club

- Welter, Stuart H.—ALB

Division B

Aerospace Orators Club

- Ikeda, Yutaka—CL
- Rao, AK—CC

Ascension Health Toastmasters

- Price, Howard Lee—ALS
- Price, Howard Lee—DTM

B.I.B.L.E. Toastmasters

- Hester, Mary L.—CC

Bulls & Bears Club

- Deveydt, David W—CC
- Deveydt, David W—ALB

Cable Talk Toastmasters Club

- Chohan, Farzana—LDREXC

Cave Springs Toastmasters

- Grau, Christopher J.—CC

Creve Coeur Toastmasters Club

- Costa, Paulo—CC

Grace Church Toastmasters

- Morrissey, Ralph P.—CL
- Morrissey, Ralph P.—ALB
- Morrissey, Ralph P.—CC
- Morrissey, Debra M.—ALB

Mallinckrodt Speaks

- Thompson, Trisha N.—CL

Monsanto Noontime Toastmasters

- Monken, Joshua A—CL
- Rigdon, Christopher J.—CL

Plus Factor Club

- Hill-Carter, Camesha N.—ALB

River City Toastmasters Club

- Whatley-Blaine, Nancy K.—ACB

Save-a-Lot Toastmasters (SALT)

- Adkins, Katherine—CC
- Heaton, Bob—ACB

St Charles County Toastmasters Club

- Parsons, Gina D—CC

Weldon Toast Club

- Van Horn, James T.—CC

Division C

McBrian Lincoln-Douglas Club

- Allbritton, Tara Y.—CC

Scott Toastmasters Club

- Williams, Jeffrey A.—ALS
- Williams, Jeffrey A.—DTM
- Wood, Yolanda M.—ALS
- Wood, Yolanda M.—DTM
- Gillard, Thomas A.—LDREXC

Division E

Alpha Toastmasters

- Quinn, Michael K.—CC
- Buchanan, Deandra—CC

(Continued on page 17)

District 8 Award Achievements ... continued



Callaway Community

- Minton, William Kurt—ALS
- Minton, William Kurt—DTM

Columbia Toastmasters

- Kaplan, Lorie F—ALB
- Reese, Alice—CC
- Dinalankara, Randima—CL

Downtown Toastmasters

- Howard, Genevieve A—CL
- Freeman, Kenneth Don—ALS
- Britt, Leigh C.—ACG

Good Neighbor Toastmasters Club

- Bennett, Nicholas Barton—CL

MO Univ of Science & Technology

- Riefer, Josh M—CC

Shelter Insurance Toastmasters

- Giglio, Michael J—CL

Talu Toastmasters Club

- Lockhart, Jimmie—ACS
- Licklider, William F.—ALB
- Lockhart, Jimmie—ALB
- Licklider, William F.—ACG

Division F

BJC Toastmasters

- Colmenero, Erika—ACB

F.R.B. Club

- Autry, Prentice C.—CL

Free Speakers

- Calhoun, Lawson H.—ACG
- Calhoun, Lawson H.—DTM

Jacobs P3

- Heinzel, Larisa—CL
- Heinzel, Larisa—CC

MAC Toastmasters Club

- Suelflow, Nancy—ACG
- Hayes, Philip J—ACS
- Kroll, Elizabeth A—CL
- Hillenbrand, John Ryan—CC

Missouri Toast of the Town Club

- Stevens, Casetta—LDREXC
- Stevens, Casetta—ALB

Primary Conversations

- Allen, Raymond F.—CL
- Bufford, Lonza L—CL

Rent-A-Toast Club

- Waugh, Leanne M.—ALS
- Waugh, Leanne M.—DTM

RubinBrown

- McConnell, Mary Jo—CC

Sigma-Aldrich Toastmasters Club

- Davis, Angela M.—CL

Speech Masters Toastmasters Club

- Christian, Edward B.—CC

Square Talkers Toastmasters Club

- Siess, Julie Marie—ALB
- Hoelscher, Richard—CC

Voices In Unity Club

- Lamb, Jeannine M—ACB

Wells Fargo Advisors Toastmasters

- Molinarolo, Patrice—CL



Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club

Next meeting: Sept. 28, 2013

Where: 732 Goddard Ave., Chesterfield
(same location as the DEC Meeting)

Time: 2:30 pm—4:30 pm

Theme: How can I lead without a title?

***Where leaders are made—a place to
build your leadership skills!***

Come join us!



*Congratulations to these
Award Achievers!*

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

District 8 is on the web.

www.dist8tm.org

**WHERE LEADERS
ARE MADE**

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

Debra Morrissey, LGM

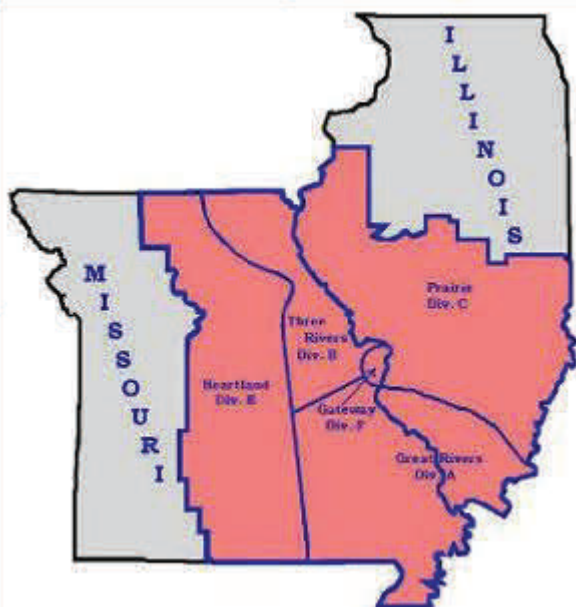
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Photographer: Charles Carpenter, DTM

The Mission of District 8

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



District 8 Calendar

Sep. 22, 2013	Storytelling Event 4:00—6:00 pm Amphitheater at Chesterfield 631 Veterans Pl Dr., Chesterfield, MO
Sep. 28, 2013	Fall Judges Training 9:00—11:00 AM Missouri College 1405 S Hanley Rd, St. Louis, MO
Oct 12, 2013	Division B Contest Briefings 10 am Prairie Commons Branch STLC Library Contest 10:30 am 915 Utz Lane, Hazelwood, MO
Oct. 19, 2013	Division F Contest Briefings 9:15 am 2909 Laclede Ave., St. Louis, MO Contest 9:30 am
Oct. 26, 2013	Division A Contest Briefings 9:15 am Thornhill Branch STLC Library Contest 9:30 am 12863 Willowick Dr., St. Louis, MO
Nov. 9, 2013	Division C Contest Briefings 10:45 am Fairview Heights Public Library Contest 11:00 am 10017 Bunkum Rd., Fairview Heights, IL
Nov. 9, 2013	Division E Contest Briefings 9:45 am GE Capital Corporation Contest 10:00 am
Nov. 22-23, 2013	District 8 Fall Conference St. Louis Union Station Hotel St. Louis, MO



**District 8 Flying to New Heights
in 2013-2014!
Come Fly With Us!!**