



THE VOICE

DISTRICT 83 NEWSLETTER

December 2014

Turn Inspiration Into Action & Results

By Su Brooks, ACG, ALB; Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALB; and Lynda Starr, ACG, ALB



Keynote Speaker Craig Valentine

We were pleased to have Craig Valentine as the keynote speaker for the Fall Conference. Craig is Toastmasters International's **1999 World Champion of Public Speaking**, a motivational speaker and author. He explained the 3Rs for achieving remarkable success: reality, relationships, reform and the bonus one of rewards. There will always be other people who put us down and the way to overcome this, in Craig's words are: "Be too good for their objections to matter." "We are not always willing to take responsibility for our actions," he explained. He summarized this as "average people place blame; exceptional people take it." We can achieve success if we look at making changes in small increments and in the end will reap the rewards. Craig is a very dynamic and humorous speaker and he interspersed inspiring personal anecdotes with his tips. For example, he described how his young son always asks questions and to Craig, "being remarkable means never to stop asking questions." Craig also stressed the importance of positivity and advised, "not to let negative people drain you and bring you down." His advice on being a good leader is to be positive, because there is never a positive leader with a negative team and "remind others

of their importance." Despite the late hour of the talk, Craig rejuvenated the audience and offered great tips that will be useful in Toastmasters and our private and professional lives.

Let's Get Ready to Rumble – The Finals!

Everyone was filled with excitement as the last leg of the contest season was about to be begin!

After winning their club, area and division contests, the Table Topics and Humorous Speech finalists were ready for the District 83 competition finals. They did not disappoint!



Table Topics contest winners (l to r) Reginald Armand, Grant Van Eck and Mark Gavagan.

The Table Topics contestants were challenged with commenting on the quote: "Playing safe is only playing." The competitors were: Kathryn Timpson, Maria Rios-Marrera, Ken Oehlkers, Yong Li, Reginald Armand, Grant Van Eck and Mark Gavagan. The District 83 Table Topics crown went to

Fall Conference continued on page 2

Feedback from the Educational Workshops

"What I enjoyed most from Kevin's workshop is his emphasis on telling a personal story, keeping the intrigue and methods of utilizing the stage!"

*Mecca Brown,
Dialogue Party Toastmasters,
First Timer,
Kevin Moulton's workshop*

"I felt the highlight was how George made the workshop interactive by using members of the audience. He also gave very useful hints, such as restating the Table Topic question at the end. I thoroughly enjoyed his workshop!"

*Rebecca Marzec,
Red Bank Toastmasters,
George Corrado's workshop*

"It was an interesting, novel approach to the subject. All of us, at some point, have trouble with our willpower. This subject pertains to everyone, no matter where they are in life. I like the idea of having a structured approach each step of the way."

*George Zazzali,
Fairleigh Early Birds Toastmasters,
Kaila Lim's workshop*

Photography by Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALB

In this Issue

Turn Inspiration into Action & Results	1
Mission Possible: Achieving Success with Toastmasters	3
Spring 2015 Conference.....	3
Get Ready for the International Speech and Evaluation Contests	3
Educationally Speaking	6
Advanced Clubs	6
Welcome Talking Genes!	6
Winter Training Reminder	6
Lt. Governor Marketing's Message.....	12
Washington Park Toastmasters 5th Anniversary	13
Happy 20th Anniversary, Power Talkers Toastmasters.....	14
In the Limelight: The Challenges of Being an Area Governor	15
Be Findable Online	16
Why the CC is Not Enough.....	17
Inspiration from Tom Peters	17
Half Full or Half Empty – Positive is Power	18
Toastmasters in China	19
Newsletter Contest	19

The Voice will publish online and via email in August, October, December, February, April and June. We welcome your comments, contributions and suggestions. **The deadline for the February 2015 issue is January 24, 2015.**

How to reach the District 83 Newsletter Co-Editors

Su Brooks: subrooksd83@gmail.com

Lynda Starr: lbstarr@optonline.net

Fall Conference continued from page 1

Mark Gavagan. The second and third place winners are **Reginald Armand** and **Grant Van Eck!**

Humorous Speech contestants came fully prepared to deliver excellent, solid performances. The competitors were Emily Cohen, Alvaro Botero, Stuart Kramer, Oscar Ocasio, Jim Tosone, Ryan Sun and Bob Share.



Humorous Speech contest winners (l to r) Bob Share, Ryan Sun and Jim Tosone.

Bob Share earned the District 83 Humorous Speech crown with his speech entitled, "The Big 300!" Bob shared his story about his love affair with his Toyota Corolla. He was looking forward to his car attaining the 300,000-mile mark, so that he could plan a party and post the big event on social media! What he didn't know was that the odometer was set so that it would not go beyond 299,999 miles!

Ryan Sun earned second place with his speech entitled, "My Adventure in America!" Ryan shared humorous perspectives between the Chinese and American cultures. For example, when he told his father that he was coming to live in America, his father said, "Son, I'm concerned about you. You see the films. Everyone in America carries a gun."

Jim Tosone placed third with his speech entitled, "It's Only Rock-and-Roll." Jim shared stories and anecdotes about a wife's worst nightmare — when her husband tells her, "Honey, I want to join a rock-and-roll band."

District 83 congratulates all the contestants!

First Timers

Toastmasters who attend the District 83 conference for the first time do so for many reasons and not all first timers are new Toastmasters. All were inspired to learn more. Those who attended the First Timers workshop were impressed by Gimai Ma's enthusiasm and enjoyed meeting fellow first timers. Several repeat attendees reached out to find out if the conference met their expectations. Hopefully, they had a positive experience, will bring the excitement back to their clubs and will join us as repeat attendees at the Spring Conference on May 30 and 31, 2015 in New Brunswick, NJ.

Photography by Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALB

Mission Possible: Achieving Success with Toastmasters

By Lynda Starr, ACG, ALB

To paraphrase the old TV Show, Mission Impossible, "Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to build and improve speaking and leadership capabilities and help others to do the same, resulting in greater self-assurance. Fortunately, in Toastmasters, it is Mission Possible and Impossible does not exist in our vernacular. At the beginning of most club meetings, the sergeant at arms, president or Toastmaster reads the club mission statement:

The mission of a Toastmasters Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

The revised version, adopted in April 2013, reads:

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth

According to Toastmaster's Charting a Course for Club Success, there are four steps to fulfill a mission statement, namely set a vision, set goals to achieve that vision, monitor progress of goals and evaluate overall success.

A vision is the overall image of the goal as in picture where you'd like your club to be and working toward fulfilling that

vision should inspire club members and stakeholders to commit to taking the steps needed to realize the vision. The Distinguished Club Plan (DCP) is a good way to measure progress to reaching the vision such as how many CCs were earned, how many new members and if officers attended training. The VP-Education can track individual members' progress and mentors, fellow members and club officers can support each member's successes, celebrating the Icebreaker, Half&Half and accomplishment of CC, ACB, etc. and personal milestones such as few ahs than the previous meeting. As we learned at the Spring 2014 conference, excellence means improving on a daily basis as opposed to being a distant goal.

The Toastmaster mission resonates with me and I enjoy hearing it at the meetings to put me in the proper frame of mind. I love the keywords of "positive" and "empowered." I really liked the "mutually supportive" in the older version. To me it means that each member is there to help, guide and cheer on fellow members. In Toastmasters, we evaluate and point out the value in the speaker's efforts rather than offer critiques that criticize the speaker for his/her shortcomings. It reminds me of the old days on American Idol when Paula Abdul would always uplift the contestant while Simon Cowell would tear them down. Simon may be more fun, but Paula was more supportive and left the person with some dignity.

Save the Date! Spring 2015 District Conference

"The World is Better Because of You!"

District 83's Spring Conference will take place Saturday and Sunday, May 30 and 31, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, in New Brunswick NJ.

Early Bird Registration is \$135.00 (December 1, 2014-February 28, 2015)

See Registration Form on page 4

Get Ready for the International Speech and Evaluation Contests

Club level competitions start in February 2015; area level competitions take place in March 2015 and competitors advance to the division level contests in April 2015. Those who win their division titles will compete at the District 83 finals taking place during the Spring Conference on Saturday, May 30, and Sunday, May 31 at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick. Remember, whoever wins the International Speech Competition will represent District 83 at the Toastmasters International Convention being held in Las Vegas, Nevada in August 2015.

TOASTMASTERS DISTRICT 83 2015 SPRING CONFERENCE

“The World is Better Because of You!”

www.toastmasters83.org

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, May 30th & 31st, 2015



Hyatt Regency New Brunswick

2 Albany St, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Club Name: _____ Div: _____

Status (Check current designation)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTM	<input type="checkbox"/> ATMB	<input type="checkbox"/> ATMS	<input type="checkbox"/> ATMG	<input type="checkbox"/> CL	<input type="checkbox"/> ALB	<input type="checkbox"/> DTM
	<input type="checkbox"/> CC	<input type="checkbox"/> ACB	<input type="checkbox"/> ACS	<input type="checkbox"/> ACG	<input type="checkbox"/> AL	<input type="checkbox"/> ALS	

I would like to work on a committee for this conference () YES () NO

Circle any committee(s) you would like to volunteer for!

Contests	Credentials	Education (workshop proctor)	Repeat Attendees	First-Timers
Fundraising	Hospitality	Parade of Banners	Publications/ Programs	Publicity
Registration	Video/Photography	Volunteers	Facilities	Please contact me

Are you a first time Conference attendee? () YES () NO

Are you bringing your banner for the Parade of Banners? () YES () NO

Early Bird Special: \$135.00 through February 28

Meal Choices Chicken Fish Vegetarian

Mail Registration form & Payment to:

Lynda Starr, ACG/ALB

Spring Conference Registration Chair

48 Emily Place, Parsippany NJ 07054

lbstarr@optonline.net

(973) 386-5949

Should You Have Any Questions Contact:

Isaak Gelbinovich DTM / Alex Volyand CC/CL

Spring Conference Co-Chairs

mail@isaakprospeak.com / ebheat@aol.com

(201) 741-2227 / (917) 803-4356

Make check payable to: District 83 Toastmasters

Descriptions of Committees

Contests:

The Contests Committee Chair coordinates the International Speech (Spring Conference) and Humorous Speech (Fall Conference), as well as the Evaluation Contest (Spring Conference) and Table Topics (Fall Conference) contests. Volunteers for this committee will be lead by the Committee Chair to serve as judges, sergeant-at-arms, or ballot collectors.

Credentials:

The Credentials Committee Chair records and releases ballots and reports totals during the District business meetings (for both Fall and Spring Conferences). Volunteers for this committee will be asked to assist chair in registering Club Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Education.

Education:

The Education Committee Chair coordinates workshops that are educational, informative or entertaining, according to the goals of the current Lt. Gov. of Education and Conference Chairperson. Volunteers in this committee will be asked to Proctor (assist) the Workshop Presenter they are assigned to. (introduce workshop speaker, present appreciation certificate and/or gift, and collects feedback forms at the end of the workshop).

Facilities:

The Facilities Committee Chair makes sure all logistics function smoothly with the Conference facility. Volunteers in this committee will asked to make sure all equipment needed is provided and that room setups are planned. Makes sure all gavels, microphones, and signage is provided.

First-Timers:

The First-Timers Workshop Chair plans a special session for those attending the Conference for the first time, making sure that they have an enriching experience. Volunteers will be asked to assist in various activities, as assigned by the FT Workshop Chair.

Fundraising:

The Fundraising Chair encourages Toastmaster members to buy ads, either for their clubs, their own businesses or both, in addition to outside ads, for inclusion in the Conference program. Volunteers for this committee will be asked to provide leads to the Fundraising Chair that will raise funds for the conference.

Hospitality:

The Hospitality Committee Chair coordinates the greeting of guests to the conference by providing guidance to events, as indicated in the conference program. Also, the committee makes sure that guests have a place where they can gather during or in between conference activities. Volunteers for this committee will be asked to decorate the Hospitality Room, to greet guests when they arrive, and to be at key areas at the facility to guide guests to conference workshops.

Parade of Banners:

The Parade of Banners Chair makes sure all clubs that brings their banners are recognized (list of those clubs that are bringing their banners is provided by the Registration Chair) during the conference. Volunteers for this committee will assist in publicizing directions as to where to store and pick up banners, as well as directing participants where to hang the banners. Also, volunteers may be asked to help with line-up, and announcements, in a timely manner.

Conference Program Chair:

The Conference Program Chair is a one-person operation, coordinating with all chairs to make sure all necessary material for the conference program is provided. The person in this capacity must know printing computer software and must know printing terminology.

Publications:

The Publications Chair makes sure all announcements (i.e. Parade of Banners, Credentials, etc.) are provided to Registration Chair for inclusion in the Conference package.

Publicity:

The Publicity Chair assures that every club member is aware of the conference, and is motivated to attend. Also, that knowledge of the conference is disseminated through the District website, print media and social media. Volunteers for this committee may be asked to “spread the word” about the conference during area and division contests, as well as to anyone they feel would be interested in attending. They may also be asked to provide media leads to Publicity Chair.

Registration

The Registration Chair is the “bloodline” of the conference, providing information to all chairpersons regarding registrants to the conference, deposit fees, and check-in. Volunteers for this committee will be asked to assist in Check-in of First-time attendees, workshop presenters, walk-ins, etc.

Videography:

The Videography Chair assures that there is sufficient video equipment, and that it is running smoothly. Volunteers for this committee may be asked to make sure all equipment is set, since workshops run simultaneously.

Photography:

The Photography Chair makes sure key, as well as spontaneous pictures are taken during the conference. Volunteers for this committee will be guided by the PC, where needed.

Volunteers:

The Volunteers Chairperson (usually a one-person operation) finds out how many volunteers are needed by each committee chair. Registration Chair will provide list of those attending, then VC contacts those people to see if they would be interested in volunteering. Volunteer Chair must emphasize the benefits of volunteering, such as personal and educational growth

Educationally Speaking

In this edition, Fran Okeson provides us with two additional educational flyers. The information on page 7 highlights eight reasons to attend Club Officer Training. On pages 8 and 9, "Let It Snow" describes some speech ideas for you to consider as you work on speeches in your first Competent Communication manual. At the end, she provides some tips to encourage you to take the next steps on your Toastmasters journey, as well as directions for submitting your application for your award.

Fran Okeson, DTM 17, is a Past District Governor of District 46. She currently serves as President of No Limits Toastmasters Club, Area 13 Governor 2014-2015 and has served as District 83's High Performance Leadership Advisor since 2008.

Advanced Clubs

A new advanced club, SpeakAbility, chartered in April 2014, shared a promotional flyer with our members. The club has a unique format for each meeting. For example: in December, they're hosting a 'potluck' night, where four members will bring speech ideas instead of dishes. Those four ideas will be randomly selected by four members who will present the speeches. They'll have a limited time to prepare/outline the speech, then deliver it on cue.

Eye-catching graphics and intriguing meeting information help set the tone to invite prospective guests to the meeting to learn more.

Check out the SpeakAbility flyer in this issue on page 10.

Late Breaking News!!

Welcome to our newest club:

Talking Genes!

Club location: Bridgewater, NJ

Congratulations!!!

Winter Officer Training

Winter Officer Training begins at the Winter TLI (Toastmasters Leadership Institute) on Saturday, December 6, 2014 at Toys "R" Us, 859 Berdan Ave., Wayne, NJ 07470. Please click on the associated URL below to sign up. If you have any difficulty with registration for TLI, please contact Bill Hood at ramapomountainbill@gmail.com or 973-907-2933 (home).

District Officer DEC Meeting – 9am to 12pm:

<https://eventbrite.com/event/14629048879/>

Club Officer Training – 1pm to 4pm:

<https://eventbrite.com/event/14615979789/>

Club Sponsor, Mentor, Coach Training – 9am to 12pm:

<https://eventbrite.com/event/14628994717/>

If you cannot attend TLI, there will be several other training opportunities throughout the district. Please visit the district website Club Officer Training page for information about upcoming training sessions. Winter training begins in December and continues through the end of February.

<http://toastmasters83.org/officer-training/club-officer-training.html>

8 Reasons To Attend Club Officer Training

1. **It's the proper thing to do. Your club has given you this opportunity to learn and grow. (remember to attend summer and winter sessions)**
2. **It helps your club attain Goal # 9 in the DCP (Distinguished Club Program)**
3. **It helps you understand your club job description.**
4. **It gives you the opportunity to share your ideas with your fellow club officers.**
5. **It lets you see and hear what other officers are doing in their clubs.**
6. **It gives you a chance to express your concerns to your district leaders.**
7. **It gives you an added opportunity to socialize with Toastmasters outside your home club environment.**
8. **It lets you hear about the upcoming plans for the district.**

**Compliments of: Area 13 Governor Fran Okeson DTM 17
Past District 46 Governor (2001-2002)
(Ph) 718-984-1339 (E) frantotten@verizon.net**



LET IT SNOW

Brrrrrrrrrr.....

“Baby It’s Cold Outside !!!!!”

Things you can do while the snow is falling outside and you’re nice and warm inside:

1. Have a cup of hot chocolate while you poke around in the attic. What will you find up there that would make a nice idea for a CC speech? (An old doll that reminds you of the day you got her, the train set your favorite relative gave you, some old books of poetry you forgot you had, an old diary, some old “love letters”, a favorite chair that didn’t fit in with the new decor, a box of baby clothes that might now fit your grandchild, a long forgotten hobby that might be revived, a collection that can be added to, pictures of childhood friends who might love to hear from you, some old clothes your grandparents wore and you played with - with your friends.) **What a great CC speech idea !**
2. Do some repairs around the house. Do you realize how many of your fellow members would love to hear how you fixed the doorknob or hinge? How about painting a room, cleaning out the fireplace or making sure all the clocks chime at the same time? **What a great CC speech idea !**
3. While you were in the attic, did you find your old school yearbook? How about a speech about the day you found out that you “made” the # 1 school on your list? How about a speech about your new friends or the new school’s rules? What about the teams? Did you join any of them or were you a bookworm? Did you go on any school trips? Did you ever go as an adult to the same place? What did you do during those summer vacations? Do you remember the other kids in the yearbook photos? How did you feel when you received your school ring? How about a speech about your teachers? What went through your mind on Graduation Day? Were you ready to face the world? (There’s a whole CC inside of just one Yearbook !!) **What great speech ideas !**
4. What are your feelings when “Mother Nature” plays her nasty tricks? When it rains during your picnic or barbecue? When it literally rains on your parade? When the lightening chases you off the golf course? Don’t hide your feelings. Express them. Then listen as your fellow club members recall their own feelings during these times. **What great speech ideas !**
5. Do you think about other people? I mean really think about them. What faces them when they go home after a hard day at the office or school? If your co - workers are foreign born, do you ever ask them about their customs? If you are the one who is foreign

born, do you ever share your customs with your American co - workers? Toastmasters is an International organization...we are the most fortunate people in the world. We have people in our clubs who come from every corner of the world. Are we wasting them as one of our resources? We can learn so much more about problems around the world if we communicate with our foreign - born friends. Don't look at someone and think of all the differences you see, look at someone and enjoy all the similarities. **What great speech ideas !**

6. How about animals? Do you have one or does one own you? You can complete an entire CC Manual by making speeches about animals. If you're fortunate enough to share your life with one of our furry or scaly friends, tell your fellow members about what it's like. Some people are allergic to animals, but that doesn't mean they wouldn't like to hear stories about yours. Did you ever tame a "wild" animal or raise an animal for profit? Did you ever train a dog for the Lighthouse to lead a blind person around? This can be the start of a whole series of speeches about the Disabled and how they must learn to cope with their surroundings. **What great speech ideas !**

7. What about the workplace? Do you have a speciality? Do you have an unusual job? You can tell people how you decided on your chosen field. What else might you have done if you didn't accept your current position? Do you "number crunch" all day or are you off in cyber space? Do you work with your hands or do you make big decisions that might change the world? Do you motivate people with your ideas or do you serve as the sounding board for others. **What Great Speech Ideas !!!**

What should you do after you complete your 10th speech?

1. Have your VPE initial all your speeches on the Record of Assignment.
2. Check off two free Advanced Manuals of your choice. (first CC only.)
3. Have your VPE sign and date the line above the words: _____
Vice President Education
4. Make a copy of the form (both sides) for your records.
5. Ask your VPE to file it immediately. **C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S!!!**
6. While you are waiting for your advanced manuals to arrive, start a your ACB.
7. You can also begin working on a second CC for another club you've joined.
8. Plan on serving as a club officer so you can earn your CL Award (Competent Leader)
9. Think about joining another club as a "DUAL" member and give your second CC to that club.

For additional help..contact ~
/ Area 13 Governor Fran Okeson DTM 17
Past District 46 Governor ~ 2001-2002
District 83 High Performance Leadership Advisor
: (E) Frantotten@verizon.net or 718-984-1339

Want to launch your speaking skills to the next level?

Come to SpeakAbility

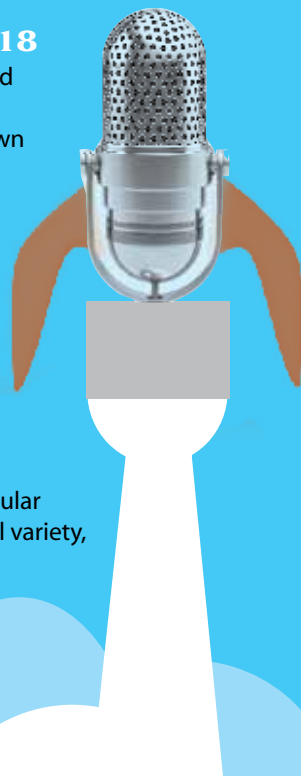
Upcoming Meetings

Potluck Night - Dec. 18

Instead of contributing prepared dishes, four members will contribute speech ideas to be thrown into a pot. Four other members will pick from the pot, taking a limited time to outline a speech, then deliver on cue.

Skills Challenge - Jan. 15

The Toastmaster will challenge participants to speak while emphasizing particular public speaking skills (e.g., vocal variety, gestures, or deliberate pauses).



Meetings

- Third Thursday of every month
- 7:45 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Chestnut Street Community Church, 303 Chestnut Street, Roselle (Union County)

Membership Requirements

- Must have earned your CC
- Must be a member in good standing of a regular Toastmasters club

If you need a nudge to achieve a new level of public speaking skill, join us and find that challenge!

- Theme nights featuring off-the-cuff speeches. Improve your extemporaneous speaking beyond just Table Topics.
- Still kind, but more critical evaluations.
- Variations on evaluation formatting, such as panel or group evaluations. (Not every meeting, but often enough to keep things interesting.)
- Game show or debate-style table topics or maybe even a chain story session -- whatever the topics master can dream up.
- Grammarian and Ah! Counter reports that announce the specifics of individual need for improvement. Scary? Maybe. Helpful? Indeed!



www.SpeakAbilityToastmasters.com

More Info: Helen Wollny, VP Membership, hwollny@verizon.net, 908-232-5414
Michelle Tropper, President, michelletropper@verizon.net, 908-548-7357

Q & A for the Grammarian

By Su Brooks, ACG, ALB

- Q.** What is the grammarian supposed to do before and during the club meeting?
- A.** Check out the official description of the role of the Syntax Sentinel as provided by Toastmasters international: <http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/MemberExperience/MeetingRoles/Grammarian.aspx>
- Q.** Several members of our club do not speak English as their first language. Should I critique their speeches, evaluations, Table Topics and reports any differently than for the other members?
- A.** Find out in advance if there are any members who do not want to have their grammar evaluated, so as not to make anyone feel uncomfortable. Toastmasters attend club meetings to improve. I have yet to meet a Toastmaster who does not want to hear how to improve. You may highlight a few examples of ways to improve the grammar for each meeting participant, but due to time constraints you do not have to list or draw attention to everything at each meeting. Also, provide commentary in a kind and constructive way, just as you would during a speech evaluation. In addition, the grammarian does not just point out failings, but also mentions a good turn of phrase.
- Q.** What if the speech evaluator already mentioned the speaker's grammar?
- A.** That is fine. The speaker may have discussed it with the Evaluator in advance and asked for specific feedback. If you have anything to add in your report, then mention it. If not, then report that the evaluator already identified areas for improvement.
- Q.** What are some interesting resources for Word of the Day?
- A.** Merriam-Webster has a free subscription feature to have a Word of the Day delivered to your email daily. Or, you can Like their Facebook page or check it out on their Twitter feed. <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>
- [Dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com) also provides a Word of the Day subscription feature, along with options to enjoy it on Facebook, Twitter or Google+.
- Q.** We have a card deck with words and definitions in our club resource box at our meeting location. What about those?
- A.** That is another great resource. If you use the words as shown on the card deck, come up with a way to make sure the same word is not reused (presented again as new material) within a certain time period.
- Q.** How can I make sure the word I select for the meeting is not too boring or too obscure? What if no one is able to use it?
- A.** It may be that the word selected was too difficult to use during the course of the meeting. Or, members may not have been able to see it easily. Make sure it is on the back of the agenda or printed on a whiteboard or flip chart and that it can be seen. Ask your mentor, a club officer or another fellow club member if you need advice.
- Q.** What if the grammarian doesn't identify something that should have been pointed out?
- A.** If there is time, you can raise your hand and add to the report or wait until announcements and other business. Or, you can talk to the member one-on-one after the meeting if time allows.
- Q.** How can I serve as grammarian since English is not my first language and I am not really good at English grammar yet?
- A.** Present the Word of the Day and listen carefully to all parts of the meeting. Continue to hone your listening skills as you attend meetings regularly. Your English, grammar and other Toastmasters skills will improve as you take on a variety of roles. I have met many Toastmasters who have stepped out of their comfort zones by participating in the different meeting roles and were glad they did.
- Q.** How can the grammarian get meeting credit towards a part of a project in the Competent Leadership manual?
- A.** Bring your manual to all of your meetings. The grammarian role appears four times, once each with the first four projects. Make sure you ask a fellow member for a written evaluation of your role before the meeting begins.



Fellow Toastmasters,

Last year all candidates for the top three were interviewed – and one question I was asked was, “Do you know how much time you are committing to?” I replied in the affirmative – and the time commitment has really

been reinforced over the past few months!

There are a few requirements that District 83 must accomplish in order to be acknowledged as Distinguished in June of 2015. I don’t want to dwell on the figures – but just give you the top line. *For more information about the District Recognition Program (DRP), please visit the Toastmasters International website: <http://www.toastmasters.org/Recognition>*

NUMBER OF CLUBS: Toastmasters International issues a club growth goal every year. You might think – this is easy – just get new clubs. And, in a very simple way – you are right! So far this year we have two new clubs and five prospects completing paperwork to become new clubs. Paperwork just needs a few more signatures and then we are done. Congratulations to them all! BUT, we also need to keep all the clubs we had as of the end of June 2014 – if we lose any (and, unfortunately, we already have) it means we need to start more new ones. This means we need your help – keeping your current clubs healthy and helping us with potential clubs.

KEEPING YOUR CURRENT CLUB HEALTHY: Is your current club healthy? As Lt. Governor Education and Training Bill Hood mentioned in the October newsletter, consider using the Moments of Truth program to see how your members view your club. Additionally, if your membership is below 12, consider asking me to assign a coach. The coach’s purpose is to look at your club as an outsider, and see how he or she can help you become stronger – and membership is just one measure of strength. One of our clubs grew significantly this past year – with the help of two coaches – and is on its way to becoming Distinguished.

HELPING WITH POTENTIAL CLUBS: How can you help with potential clubs – do you know an organization that might profit from a new club? Do you work in a company that might profit from a new club? Would you like to be on a demo team? I always need people to give a small

demo meeting at potential clubs! Do you want to develop “mentoring” skills – we need mentors for new clubs – dedicated Toastmasters who will help shape the new club and its meetings and processes to become a successful club.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: Toastmasters International also issues us a membership growth goal. Every non-profit I have ever been associated with has growth goals. While it is important to add new members, it is equally important that we look at our current members. In our clubs, are members dropping out? I challenge all club, area and division officers to ask the question “why?” Many organizations have an exit interview – use that idea in your own club – follow up and ask “why?” and then add – “what can we do to have you come back?”

SPONSORS, MENTORS AND COACHES: As Bill mentioned, look for training for coaches, mentors and sponsors. We are currently developing the agenda for the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) and are planning some training regarding sponsors, mentors and coaches. While we are in the process of developing some ideas for the training, we still have a need for you to fill these roles. If you are interested, please contact me so we can talk. I might not be able to fulfill your request immediately, but I will work with you to get you a position with which you can develop and hone your skills.

REVITALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM: While this is technically not under the purview of the LGM – I will address it with my Learning Master hat on. In September, we had the opportunity to review the proposed Ice Breaker and in October, we had a top-line look at some proposed titles for modules. However, this was all top-line and we had to sign secrecy documents pledging our first children if we divulged any info. As Toastmasters International CEO Daniel Rex stated in Kuala Lumpur, the program will not be rolled out until it is RIGHT! Therefore, keep plugging away at your educational and leadership goals. Keep your goal in mind and don’t worry about what will come with the new educational program.

Wishing you a happy holiday season and a spring into the New Year with enthusiasm and renewed energy.

**Paula Markert, DTM
Lt. Governor Marketing**

Washington Park Toastmasters Celebrates 5-Year Anniversary with International Flair

By My'Chal T. Wilkin, CC

“You express the truth of your character, dedication to your goals, and your commitment to your relationship with the choice of your actions.” – Dr. Steve Maraboli

Washington Park Toastmasters (Club Number 01345063) began in 2009 as an idea of Seema Kashyap. She reached out to a number of interested Audible, Inc. employees and held an informational meeting explaining what Toastmasters was and enlisting enough support to charter as a new club. As charter member Gary Couitt, ACG, ALB recalls, “I told a colleague that I was going to the meeting just to support Seema and that I would be back in 10 minutes. I walked out an hour later Vice President of Education.” Gary currently serves as the District 83 Secretary.

Although we enjoy the generous support of Audible, we made a conscious decision to remain a community club. This has given us a diverse membership, which currently includes members from Audible and Rutgers, as well as others in the community. With the support of our Club Mentor Rochelle Joyner, DTM and from Joe Ann Shaeffers, DTM the club quickly took root and flourished. As a result of all these factors, we have a wide age range of members and have new members and guests attending all the time.

As part of the larger community, Washington Park Toastmasters has participated in the area and division contests. This year and last year, our Sergeant at Arms, Ioanna Malandrenias, competed in the Division A Table Topics contest; and our club Secretary,



Taj Shareef, won second place in the Division A Humorous Speech Contest. You can read more about Taj and Ioanna's experience during the first two rounds here: <http://patch.com/new-jersey/newarknj/washington-park-toastmasters-advance-speech-contest>.

Additionally, we have earned awards in the Distinguished Club Program each year since our funding – Distinguished (2009, 2013), Select Distinguished (2014), and President's Distinguished (2011, 2012) – and have set our sights on earning President's Distinguished again this year.

Realizing that Toastmasters International is not just the local club but a worldwide organization, members My'Chal T. Wilkins, CC and Alexander Uy planned our five-year anniversary celebration with an international theme. Recognizing that Toastmasters serves as the glue that brings us together from different cultures and areas of the world with the

objective to become better leaders and better speakers and that we have been fortunate enough to have members who were born or grew up in a number of countries, My'Chal and Alexander arranged for food representing Asia, North America, the Caribbean and Italy as part of the celebration. Topping this off were matching chocolate and crème-frosted cakes decorated with “Washington Park Toastmasters” and “5th Year Anniversary Word of the Day.” Needless to say, the cakes did not last for long.

Washington Park Toastmasters meets Fridays from noon to 1pm on the 15th Floor of 1 Washington Park in Newark, NJ. Join us in person or follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/wptostmasters](https://www.facebook.com/wptostmasters). Whether as evaluator, timer, Toastmaster or speaker – our commitment is to become better speakers, listeners and leaders.

Photography by Oren M. Levin, ACP, CL



Happy 20th Anniversary, Power Talkers Toastmasters!

By Sharon Tu, ACB, ALS, Club President, and Jeanette (Jen) Fredericks, ACG, ALB, Club VPE

On October 8, 2014, Power Talkers Toastmasters Club #5163, which meets at the Morris County Library, Whippany, NJ, celebrated its 20th anniversary. To commemorate this special occasion, the club invited Toastmasters district leaders and past members to join our festivities.

Opening the meeting, Toastmaster of the Day and club president, Sharon Tu read a certificate of congratulations from Toastmasters International on achieving 20 years of active participation in Toastmasters programs. She then proposed a toast to Power Talkers' past and future accomplishments. Club member Jennifer Leu gave an inspirational Thought of the Day, and club secretary Anita Hoffman, CTM, presented a brief history of Power Talkers. Of particular interest was the story of our club name: chartered on October 1, 1994 as a corporate Toastmasters club of JCP&L (an electric utility company), "Power Talkers" was an appropriate name then and remains so long after our group relocated and became a community club over 12 years ago.



District 83 Governor Anne Gilson, DTM, (far right) and a group of Power Talkers members pose with the celebratory cake, club charter and certificate of congratulations from Toastmasters World Headquarters on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the club.

Special guest District 83 governor Anne Gilson, DTM presented the keynote address "China and Platinum," acknowledging Power Talkers' past achievements and inspiring us onto even more in the years ahead.

Power Talkers is a thriving club of 20 active members. For the last three consecutive years it has achieved Select Distinguished Club status and one year earlier a Distinguished Club ribbon. Teamwork is the foundation of club goals and activities. The executive committee members are Sharon Tu (president), Jeanette Fredericks (VPE), Linda DeLap (VPM), Anju Saran (VPPR), Anita Hoffman (secretary), Stacy DeAlto (treasurer) and Vanessa Day (SAA). Club leaders increasingly play an important role in District 83 leadership. Club president Sharon Tu currently serves as Division B governor, and club VPE, Jeanette currently serves as Area 26 governor. Club member Eugene Burke, CTM, served as Area 22 governor in 2011-2012. In addition Power Talkers members frequently volunteer at officer training sessions, upper-level speech contests and district conferences.

Power Talkers Toastmasters is a community club and always welcomes new members. The club meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays in Public Meeting Room 142 of the Morris County Library from 12:15pm to 1:15pm. We also hold quarterly speak-a-thons to offer members extra opportunities to enhance speaking and evaluation skills. To contact the club executive team for more information, email us at powertalkerstmc@cs.com or visit our club website at <http://powertalkers5163.toastmastersclubs.org/>

Photography courtesy Linda DeLap, CC and Suzanne Gilman



In the spirit of teamwork prevalent within the Power Talkers leadership team, club officers VPPR Anju Saran [just outside left frame]; Secretary Anita Hoffman, CTM; President Sharon Tu, ACB, ALS; VPE Jeanette Fredericks, ACG, ALB; SAA Vanessa Day; Treasurer Stacy DeAlto, CC; and VPM Linda DeLap, CC cut the celebratory cake during the 20th anniversary program as District 83 Governor and keynote speaker Anne Gilson, DTM, [far right] joins in the happy occasion.

In the Limelight: The Challenges of Being an Area Governor

By Oomadai Rampersaud CC, CL

My name is Oomadai Rampersaud, and I am originally from Guyana, South America. I joined Toastmasters International in 2010, originally a member of one club, now a member of two clubs. I served as VPE and Sergeant of Arms before becoming Area 73 governor — a position I've held for about five months.

I serve five clubs in my area, two of which I am member and attend almost all of the meetings. I have had the opportunity to visit the other three clubs in my area as a guest (I still have to file my official report as of this date.)

I've learned different educational techniques from various clubs, but one really caught my attention, namely the way that the Toastmaster introduced the speaker. He actually researched the individual on LinkedIn and provided a lot of information on the speaker. As a guest, I felt I knew that person even before meeting him.

My challenge is getting in touch with the various officers of clubs. I've tried reaching out by e-mail and phone. I'd really like to see my clubs achieve President's Distinguished status; unfortunately, with little or no cooperation from a few clubs, I think this will be difficult to accomplish (I don't say impossible, as that would defeat my purpose as area governor).

At this point, with positive thinking and attitude, I believe that Distinguished is achievable. I will continue my efforts with visits to clubs as a guest and hope that by my presence there and with encouragement, it will give them the initiative to become better achievers and accomplish the DCP goals.

At one of my club visits, I was surprised at how little knowledge they had about goals. I've mentioned to them that I can help in the form of trying to get



Photo by Amanda Rampersaud

the club a coach; however, with no response and very little communication, I feel my hands are tied. However, I have not given up, I am still trying.

As for my reports, with the very little information I gathered on my visits, although I hate to procrastinate, that's what I find myself doing. I believe my shortfalls are that I couldn't convince the clubs to send all the officers for training and that not all the clubs

had contestants and representatives at the area or division contests.

Despite all the challenges I'm facing, I really enjoy my time and visits to the various clubs. They always greet with me with a great attitude and friendliness. Overall, their behavior toward me not only as area governor, but also as a Toastmaster, is one of respect. If I learned anything, it's that my communication skills are better; I can speak with anyone and most importantly, I enjoy meeting all these wonderful people.

After my term is over, I would like to continue another term, and this time around, I'll be more accustomed to the short or great treatment and welcome and I believe I will be able to coax the clubs into becoming President's Distinguished. I know it's going to mean more visits and speeches, but I'm ready for this or any challenge.

Toastmasters International makes us better leaders and I'm ready for that challenge again!

Be Findable Online

By Linda L. Isaacs, ACS, ALB and Michael J. Matera, ATM

People are looking for Toastmasters.

Perhaps they heard of Toastmasters from a book or newspaper article. Perhaps a family member or friend told them about Toastmasters. Perhaps their boss strongly suggested they find a club to improve their presentation skills. Or perhaps they were given a flier for your club's last open house – but they lost their nerve, and then lost the flier.

People in your community and your company are looking for Toastmasters. Will they be able to find your club?

Our club, the Mile Square Toastmasters in Hoboken, New Jersey, has had a steady stream of guests appear at meetings, giving all the reasons above for having sought us out. How do they find us?

A few of them say they found our information on the Toastmasters International website. So you should double check your listing there – is it up to date? Are any phone numbers or email addresses provided current?

Most of the visitors to Mile Square say they found us through a search engine online, using the terms "Toastmasters Hoboken" or "public speaking Hoboken." Our club's website shows up first in results for these search terms. How does your club's website perform?

Think of what your ideal visitor might look for – the word Toastmasters or the phrase "public speaking" along with the name of your city, neighboring cities, your company – then do the search. Be sure to use the private browsing mode feature on your browser, or delete your browsing history; otherwise, the search engine will put your club's website at the top, because you visit it frequently, and the search engine customizes your search results accordingly. You want to see the results as a newcomer would see them.

What do you find when you do this search? If your club's website comes out at the top of the results, great – skip this paragraph. If it doesn't, you need to do a little Search Engine Optimization. Edit the content on your site to include the search phrases you think a prospective member would use. In the headlines of articles, in the page titles, in the text, everywhere you can reasonably do so, you should include the word "Toastmasters", the phrase "public speaking" and the name of your town, neighboring towns or company. This helps the search engine program recognize that your site will answer the needs of the searchers for those terms, and is especially important if your club name does not include the name of your town or company. Search engine programs also rank sites more highly if they have incoming links. So have the web address for your club's site in the information for your club at Toastmasters International, on the District website, and anywhere else you can get it posted, such as a community information site. Reciprocal links with another Toastmasters club could also help.

Once your prospective member finds the website, will they be inspired to come to your meeting? Does the website

answer the questions they would have? Try to put yourself in their shoes. You want to make it easy for them, so include the date and time of meetings, a map or directions, information on parking and/or mass transit, where your club meets in the building (especially if you aren't allowed to put up signs). You might want to include photos of your meeting space if people might think negatively about it before coming (for example, a visitor might wonder about privacy if the meeting place is in a restaurant). Have a "contact us" page on your site, and if someone emails a question the site doesn't cover, you can then add that answer to your site.

Should you have a Facebook page, a blog, or a "News" or "Newsletter" section on your site? It depends on whether your club can be counted on to maintain it. At Mile Square, the website consists of information that requires almost no updating, and it is effective at attracting visitors and new members. Get the basic information about your club posted and refined, and then think carefully before adding a feature that will require constant maintenance.

What if your club does not have a website? In an informal survey of Mile Square members, most of them said that if the only way to get their questions answered before coming was to make a phone call, they probably would not have visited the club. If you don't have a website, and the only people who visit are friends of current members, then you need to consider whether your lack of a website is holding you back. We have found that the club website changed our efforts to get new members from a chore to a breeze.

Free options for club websites include FreeToastHost, WordPress and Google; see the Brand Portal on the Toastmasters International website for more information. Creating a website can seem overwhelming, but remember, you can work on the website in small pieces – it doesn't have to be done all at once. A basic page with your meeting time and location will get you started; you can then write and add material to make your site more persuasive and inspiring.

You may also tap the expertise of club members who are willing to help. If someone in your club has experience working with Web technology, consider having that person build the site and perhaps be the club's official Webmaster, even if you already have a VP of PR. If the site is created with FreeToastHost or WordPress, it will be relatively easy for non-technical members to update and add content in the future, so consider having your Webmaster build it on one of those two platforms.

In today's world, the internet is the public face of organizations such as Toastmasters clubs. Make that face easy to locate, friendly, helpful and inspiring, and people will seek your club out.

Linda L. Isaacs, ACS, ALB and Michael J. Matera, ATM, are members of Mile Square Toastmasters, Club 6101, Area 74, Division A, District 83.

Contact: 1123isaacs@yahoo.com

Why the CC is Not Enough

By Lynda Starr, ACG, ALB

Whether or not you expect to or have joined the ranks of DTM, every Toastmaster begins with the Icebreaker speech in the Competent Communicator manual. As members approach speech 9 or 10, one begins to think about whether to continue on past the CC with advanced manuals; to continue in Toastmasters, but focus on the Competent Leadership manual; or perhaps leave the organization. Obviously by the title of this article, my purpose is to explain why one should not stop with the CC.

I will admit that when I joined Toastmasters, I thought, "I'll earn the CC, show my boss that I am committed to improving my public speaking and that will be that." Well, eight years later and many designations and club, area, division and district offices later, I'm still here.

The Toastmasters education track has been well thought out and adapted several times since 1924 when Toastmasters was founded. It will be revised again in 2015, but the core values will remain, namely to improve on one's public speaking and leadership skills on a self-paced program based on peer evaluations. Each of the 10 speech projects in the CC manual help to develop speaking skills one step at a time.

Toastmasters has mapped out an educational program, providing direction, but allowing room for personalization in speech topics and areas of concentration within each manual project. The CC program acts as a foundation or basic training upon which the basic skills are built. For me, I continued on because I wanted to do the more specialized Public Relations and Management manuals that would help me in my career. The advanced manuals also gave me the chance to build Q&A skills.

While the CC is focused on speech skills, the advanced designations — ACB, ACS, ACG and DTM — require delivering

speeches from the Better Speaker Series and/or The Successful Club Series. Success / Communication, Success / Leadership or Youth Leadership workshop manuals, which also build leadership skills. There are 15 advanced manuals ranging from Speaking to Inform to The Professional Speaker, each containing five speech projects. You may choose the manuals to complete that best match and the skills you want to develop. Each of the Advanced Manuals assumes knowledge of basics of speech making found in the CC manual, but not necessarily that these skills are fully developed. The Competent Communication manual can be used as a reference manual as one works through the advanced manuals and Toastmasters can go back and repeat speeches in the CC manual.

I posed the CC question on the Toastmasters LinkedIn site and found that my albeit biased audience generally felt that the CC was like high school and each additional manual is akin to choosing a college major to pursue. One astute Toastmaster pointed out that "the journey through the advanced manuals would be hopelessly difficult, without the grounding from the beginning studies." He also pointed to the many DTMs who repeat the CC and CL projects. The CC provides a logical progression of building skills to prepare Toastmasters to take on the skills in the Advanced Manuals.

Toastmasters' guiding principles include that it is a self-paced program. If one feels like the CC and the foundational skills are enough, then stop there. If you'd like to continue to improve speaking and leadership abilities, then the advanced manuals will be useful. While many people share my belief that the CC is not enough, the decision ultimately comes down to what one's goals entail.

***"Effective visions are lived in details,
not broad strokes."***

– Tom Peters

Tom Peters, the author of *In Search of Excellence* and other renowned business books, changed how the public and business itself regarded organizations. He believed that "it is failures in implementation that trip us up in 9 cases out of 10." As Toastmasters, it is easy to focus on the big picture e.g. "I'm going to earn my CC in a year and my DTM in four years" or "I'm going to win the World Championship of Public Speaking." These two statements can be described as broad strokes. They are noble, worthy goals, but how can they be obtained? One must focus on the details and individual steps involved and if doing so, may have a chance to turn a vision into reality.

Half Full or Half Empty – Positive is Power

By Sherri Rase, ACB, ALB



People defining “attitude” frequently use the half glass of water analogy – is the glass half full or half empty? Either choice in this scenario limits your personal power. How do you step up to reach your “full” potential? (Pun-intended). We’ll discuss optimism and pessimism, creative thinking and ways to step forward.

Optimism vs. Pessimism

Consider “optimism” and “pessimism.” We all know the story of the parents of an incorrigible optimist whom for his birthday they gave a room full of horse manure. The child starts digging away happily, perplexing his parents. “Why are you so happy”, they inquire. “Because with all of THIS, there has GOT to be a pony in here somewhere!” The key is finding the pony.

It doesn’t help some to know that positive people live longer. Happy people have longer lives and enjoy them more. Less-happy people feel like their lives are long, but it only seems so with the grumbling.

A pessimist is someone who is always looking for the cloud in the silver lining, while the optimist looks for the silver lining in the cloud. Yet pessimists often consider themselves to be realists and the opposite may be true. The more creative your thinking, the greater likelihood you’ll find solutions and wouldn’t that make you happy?



Creative Thinkers

The new movie “The Imitation Game” tells the story of Alan Turing and the codebreakers at Bletchley Park in England. This is the story of how Turing cracked the German navy’s Enigma code and arguably won World War II. Turing was an unmitigated genius who looked at the world in a way that was completely different from others’ world view. Basing his work on Marian Rejewski’s bomba kryptologiczna, Turing created a machine that could more efficiently break Enigma codes. But he had difficulty working with others, so he took on the German naval version of the Enigma so he could work more on his own. While eccentric, Turing’s different way of thinking put many wartime codebreakers on the path to creating the generations of computers that started out the size of a room and are held in our pockets today.



Stepping Up, Stepping Forward

What’s that? “I’m not a genius. How do I become a more creative thinker?” First, take a step back from habit. Do you always use the highway to get to work? Use your GPS (or the map from the phone book or Google Maps) to find a different, more scenic way. Website tinybuddha.com suggests simple things like “smile.” Humans are programmed to emulate each

other, when you smile then I smile back! Other suggestions include “surround yourself with positive people” and “help someone.” Volunteer work is a great way to keep perspective and many companies support volunteer efforts! Exposing yourself to new influences, people, cultures and perspectives broadens your world and encourages creativity.

In Toastmasters, we can look at different ways of choosing a topic, delivering a speech, etc. as the saying goes to “think outside the box.” Progressing through the manuals, we can give ourselves a pat on the back for what we achieved rather than focusing on “but, I forgot part of my speech.” The volunteer spirit is also clear in Toastmasters with opportunities to be a mentor, club/area/division/district officer, contest official or play a role on a committee.

Ultimately by having a more positive perspective, you wire yourself to succeed. And that glass we discussed? It’s entirely full – half with water and half with air. Depending on what you need, you have the resources right there at your fingertips!

Photo of Alan Turing: Wikipedia. Photo of glasses: <http://www.melissasbargains.com/glass-half-empty-or-half-full-its-all-a-matter-of-perspective/>

Toastmasters in China

By *Sheldene Millington, DTM*

One of the fantastic things about being a Toastmaster is the ability to travel to other clubs not just in the district or the country but throughout the world. It's simple, when going on business travel or vacation to check if there are any clubs in the region, send an introductory email and request to visit a club meeting.

Last year, I added China to my bucket list and when the opportunity to visit became available, I immediately jumped on it. China, a vast country with 1.35 billion people, is the world's largest trading power.

I bought a ticket and soon settled in for my 14-hour flight. Beijing is amazing. I trudged up the Great Wall of China, walked around the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square. I visited the Summer Palace, the zoo, saw a Kung Fu show at the Red Theatre and joined a group of women performing Tai Chi in a park.

I saw the same stores in Beijing that I would see in New Jersey: the Apple store was crowded, Michael Kors, Zara and H & M all

had the same clothes and the Mercedes dealership had a huge showroom.

The Toastmasters club at Moto Talky Talkie Toastmasters is in Beijing and about 25 minutes from where I was staying. It's an amazing club. They provided a warm welcome and then asked if I could be the General Evaluator. I was very happy that they all spoke English and agreed to participate.

Somewhat different from my home club of Brunswick Toastmasters, there was no invocation or jokemaster and the General Evaluator called on the duty holders to explain their roles at the beginning of the meeting. The Table Topics session was a game and there was only one speaker, yet the meeting was funny, very lively and I learned quite a bit about Chinese culture.

So the next time you're traveling whether on business or pleasure, check out a club, send an email and plan a visit. It will be worthwhile and you'll learn something new.

Photo courtesy Moto Talky Talkie Toastmasters



Club Newsletter Contest

Criteria: Must use current TI logo. May use TI templates from Brand Portal or create your own layouts.

Club must be in good standing with April 2015 dues paid to TI on time.

Issues dated between July 1, 2014 and March 1, 2015 are eligible.

Deadline for submissions: April 15, 2015.

Submit in pdf format to d83newsletter@gmail.com

Include correct Toastmasters branding standards (colors, use of logo, fonts, images, design devices)

Minimum of 2 pages; no maximum number of pages.

One club winner will be announced at the District 83 Spring 2015 Conference. \$50 in TI Gift Certificates will be awarded.

Your club cannot enter a club newsletter in 2014/2015 if:

- A member of the club is a contest newsletter judge
- A member of the club is one of the top six District Officers:

District Governor, Lt. Governor Education and Training, Lt. Governor Marketing, District Public Relations Officer, District Treasurer, District Secretary