



THE VOICE

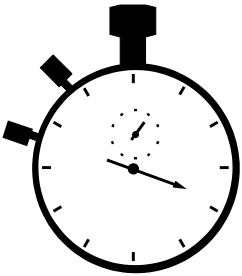
DISTRICT 83 NEWSLETTER

August 2015

Come to the District 83 Fall Conference!



Toastmasters:



**Excellence in
5 to 7 minutes**

**Saturday,
November 14, 2015**

Hyatt Regency,
New Brunswick, NJ

A one-day conference

District Finals:

Tall Tales and Table Topics
Contests

Includes three meals:
Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Call for workshop presenters:

Contact education chair
Isaak Gelbinovich, DTM
mail@isaakprospeaker.com

August 20: Submissions

August 29: Auditions

Conference video available for sale after
the conference for \$20

Please see conference registration form on
pages 3 and 4 or register online at
<http://toastmasters83.org/>

**For more information, contact
your conference co-chairs!**

Alex Volyand, ACB, CL
ebheat@aol.com

Emilia Volyand, ACG, ALB
ev812@aol.com
(917) 803-4356

Registration Chair

Lynda Starr, DTM
lbstarr@optonline.net
(973) 386-5949

Registration: \$125 per person

Keynote Speaker:

Lisa Panarello, CC

Two workshop sessions:

Choice of three tracks during
each session

Call for conference volunteers:

Contact volunteers chair
Irene Freeman, ACS, ALS
Irene.A.Freeman@gsk.com

WELCOME NEW CLUBS

iCIMS Toastmasters – Matawan – June 11, 2015

Citco Speaks – Jersey City – June 24, 2015

Quest Diagnostics Madison – Madison – June 22, 2015

Talk of Monmouth – Tinton Falls – July 15, 2015

Spotlight on Citco Speaks

By Lisa Kaste

Citco – a financial services company in Jersey City – has formed a new club 'Citco Speaks'. Due to the large interest in public speaking, the club has two separate groups that meet every other week in the office. The 35 participants are quickly mastering the one-hour format of their meetings and delivering three speeches a session. The members are bringing a high level of energy to their meetings and are enjoying the benefits of learning about their co-workers through their Ice Breaker stories.

Lisa Kaste serves as the Vice President Education of Citco Speaks.

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We're Back!

Fellow Toastmasters,

We return to serve you as District 83 Newsletter Co-Editors for 2015-2016.

Thank you for the positive comments and helpful suggestions you provided for us during 2014-2015.

A special thank-you to Anne Gilson, DTM, IPDG, for providing guidance and inspiring us to do our best this past year. Not only did we increase our understanding of Toastmasters and the district, we learned about New Jersey diners and restaurants in various locations around the district and became closer friends when we held our editorial planning meetings.

We are excited to create a compelling newsletter, six times a year, every two months, providing value to you by promoting upcoming events, reporting on past events and showcasing interesting people and topics.

Our team of veteran staff writers is comprised of Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALS; Fran Okeson, DTM 18, PDG (46); and Sherri Rase, ACB, ALB. All three Toastmasters are looking forward to contributing educational and informative articles, interviews, flyers and more to enhance your Toastmasters experience.

District Public Relations Manager Swathi Karamcheti, ACS, ALB, joins our newsletter team this year, featuring profiles of leaders in our district and a Toastmaster of the month.

We will be drawing upon the experience and expertise of Program Quality Director Paula Markert, DTM; and Club Growth Director Janice Buffalow, DTM for new ideas such as spotlighting new clubs and more.

District Director Bill Hood, DTM will steer us in the right direction as we navigate along our journey, showcasing the diverse talents, ideas and experiences of members in clubs, areas and divisions in our newly aligned District 83.

If you are interested in contributing to our newsletter as a staff writer, or if you have an idea for a story, let us know. We can help put together the article with your information and communication can take on many forms including ghostwriting, articles, Q & A, interviews, bullets (we love a good bullet) and more.

It's great to be a Toastmaster,

Su Brooks, DTM and Lynda Starr, DTM



Lynda Starr, DTM (left) and Su Brooks, DTM (right) at Gratitude and Greetings on July 25, 2015.

District 83 Newsletter Team

District Director
Public Relations Manager
Co-Editor
Co-Editor
Staff Writer
Staff Writer
Staff Writer

Bill Hood, DTM
Swathi Karamcheti, ACS, ALB
Su Brooks, DTM
Lynda Starr, DTM
Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALS
Fran Okeson, DTM 18, PDG (46)
Sherri Rase, ACB, ALB

How to reach the District 83 Newsletter Co-Editors

Su Brooks: subrooks@verizon.net or subrooksd83@gmail.com

Lynda Starr: lbstarr@optonline.net

TOASTMASTERS DISTRICT 83 2015 FALL CONFERENCE

Toastmasters: Excellence in 5 to 7 Minutes

www.toastmasters83.org

SATURDAY, November 14, 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

Registration Fee: \$125.00

Meal Choices Chicken Fish Vegetarian

Mail Registration Form & Payment to:

Lynda Starr, DTM

Fall Conference Registration Chair

48 Emily Place, Parsippany NJ 07054

lbstarr@optonline.net

(973) 386-5949

Should You Have Any Questions Contact:

Alex Volyand ACB/CL / Emilia Volyand ACG/ALB

Fall Conference Co-Chairs

Email: ebheat@aol.com

(732) 251-8682

Make check payable to: District 83 Toastmasters

Date Received _____
 Date Deposited _____
 Check # _____

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

Happy New Year!

Interviews by the District 83 Newsletter Team

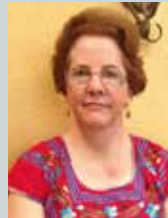
At the District 83 Gratitude and Greetings event in July, Toastmasters celebrated the successes of last year and share their goals for the new year.



Pamela Winter, DTM, PDG addressing Toastmasters and guests.



I just finished my DTM and my term as Area Governor and I'm looking forward to helping members in my club (Power Talkers) along their Toastmasters journey by being a mentor.
– Jeanette (Jen) Fredericks, DTM



Anne Fourt from Hudson Toastmasters, Bayonne is new to Toastmasters but has finished nine speeches already and is just one speech away from her CC. She is looking forward to getting a CC in 2 weeks and says her New Year's resolutions are to fulfill her duties as VPPR and get better at public speaking. She says she has a wicked sense of humor and is looking forward to finishing her ACB soon.

As the Immediate Past President of Dialogue Party Toastmasters, my goal is to mentor the new leadership team and help them develop the Youth Leadership Program.



– Ainsley A. Reynolds, DTM

For Toastmaster year 2015-16, I am going to focus on a communication goal, Advanced Communications Silver (because that's next), and a leadership goal, Competent Leadership. It will be my second CL. I find it difficult to relinquish control. I know that I need help in delegating, so that others can be empowered. It can boost one's self esteem once they know what they can do. The CL is probably more important for me than the ACS.

– Linda Bogner, ACB, ALB

My goal is to increase the number of Distinguished Clubs in Area 64, and to continue to get more DTMs.

– Fran Okeson, DTM 18, PDG (46)

At right, District Director Bill Hood, DTM and First Lady, Roseann Hood, District Logistics Manager, at Gratitude and Greetings.



My goal is to attain my 6th DTM. This enables me to grow and continue to become proficient at Communication and Leadership. Fran Okeson is my inspiration.

– Paul Scharf, DTM 5, PDG

To increase the number of Distinguished Clubs. This, in turn, creates a stronger district. My personal goal is to start again, from scratch (CC) and to compete at the International Speech Competition.

– Tom Somers, DTM, PDG



Susan Chrusciel, CC, ALB, Area 22 Director, Division B, is excited to be an Area Director for the first time. Susan, who won the Triple Crown Award in her first year, says her New Year's resolution

is to get a second Triple Crown this year and to know more people in Toastmasters. Also, she is looking forward to supporting her clubs and guiding them.

My goal is to do nothing! Ah, just kidding! Seriously speaking, I'd like to attain another DTM because the more you speak, the better you become. Each speech creates an opportunity to learn something new, for self-reflection, and to research.

– Brian Lin, DTM, PDG

So my resolution is to first earn my ACG then going for DTM. :)

– Cathie Ruiterman, ACS, ALS

Photography by Swathi Karamcheti, ACS, ALB and Pam Winter, DTM, PDG

Viva Las Vegas, the Toastmasters are Coming to Town

By Tony Figueroa, DTM PDG, PRA

For one who has been to every International convention since 1999, I am still having a lot of fun. I sense that the fun will continue for the foreseeable future. Why?, I am asked. Every International convention has basically the same schedule, the same events. So why is it fun? Every convention gives one opportunities to meet new friends and reunite with old friends from all over the world. Every convention gives one the chance to learn from the educational sessions and share them with those who may not be able to attend. Every convention gives one the ability to participate and learn the workings of Toastmasters. Every convention gives one the possibility to share in the glory of being a member of a district that is distinguished or better!

What happens in a Toastmasters International convention? The convention events are different things to different people. For the Top 3 district leaders (District Trio), the convention starts on Monday when they attend the District Leader Training for two days. The training of District Trios is coordinated by World Headquarters (WHQ) staff with the assistance of all Region Advisors from the 14 Toastmasters regions worldwide.

For most everyone else, the convention starts on Wednesday when the formal opening ceremonies are held. At the coming convention in Las Vegas, they begin at 5:30 pm with the parade of the flags of all the countries that have Toastmasters Clubs. Flag bearers are encouraged to wear their national costumes at this parade. This is followed by the march of the International officers and directors. The opening ceremonies culminate with the keynote speaker. This year, that will be Patricia Fripp, who was named by *Meetings and Conventions* magazine as one of the most electrifying speakers in North America.

At noon before the opening ceremonies, the Board of Directors holds a briefing about the decisions made at the Board meeting held earlier in the day. Attendance is optional. Following the briefing are two simultaneous educational sessions, after which the gathering of First Timers to the convention is held. First-time attendees of the convention are briefed about what to expect at the convention and have the chance to personally meet the International President.

The convention resumes for everyone at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday with the Hall of Fame. This event recognizes individual accomplishments and districts that achieved distinguished recognition or better. Presidential citations are also presented; immediate Past Region Advisors are recognized and new Region Advisors and candidates for the International board of directors and International officers are introduced. Subsequent to the Hall of Fame, there are two simultaneous educational workshops. Then, the Semi-Final contests are held to determine the finalists for the World Championship of Public Speaking. These contests are scheduled to run from 1:15 p.m. through 9:30 p.m.

At 6:30 a.m. on the same day, separate breakfast meetings are held for past and current International Directors and for past and current Region Advisors. I am not privy to any discussions at the International Directors' breakfast. At the Region Advisors breakfast, suggestions for improvement or changes are discussed and put together for presentation later to WHQ and the Board of Directors. At last year's breakfast for Region Advisors, some of the proposals we submitted were accepted. One was to create a Region Advisors Handbook, which has been published and released to the current Region Advisors. I was on the committee that worked on this handbook.

Friday events begin at 8:00 am with the session for Accredited Speaker candidates. In this session, candidates give their final presentations that determine if they are finally recognized as Accredited Speakers. A panel of judges consisting of Accredited Speakers makes that determination. This is followed by two simultaneous educational sessions. At noon, the Golden Gavel Award luncheon is held. This is the highest Communication and Leadership award that our organization gives to a non-Toastmaster. For this year, the Golden Gavel awardee is Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh. He is the founder of Grameen Bank, which gives small personal loans – known as microcredit – to impoverished people, mostly women. He also won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006.

After another educational session, the much awaited Candidates' Showcase begins. It must be noted that for about a week prior to this event, candidates are interviewed by District Trios on their plans, qualifications, and overall platforms. In the showcase, candidates for international officers and directors respond to questions by interviewers and make their appeals for support from the convention delegates. After the Candidates' Showcase, delegates from many districts get together and make final evaluations of the candidates in effort to determine who are the candidates that the districts will vote for.

The last day of the convention starts with the Annual Business meeting at 8:00 am. For some, this is the most exciting part of the convention. The elections for international officer and



What happens in a Toastmasters International convention? The convention events are different things to different people.

Continued on page 7

Photography by Lynda Starr, DTM

directors are held during this session. Any proposals that need approval by the general membership are also voted on in this session. After the lunch break, the World Championship of Public Speaking begins. Who will be the next holder of that title? This is also one of the most exciting events of the convention. After the World Championship of Public Speaking, there are separate gatherings by Regions. In these gatherings, each Region's attendees to the convention roast the outgoing International Director (if any) and Region Advisor. For Regions

that will elect their International Director at the following year's convention, interested Toastmasters will announce their intentions in this session.

The final event of the convention is the Inauguration of the new President of Toastmasters International. It starts with a reception followed by the formal inauguration and the celebration which is often a formal ball. The President-elect and next International President is Jim Kokocki, DTM.

Toastmasters International Annual Business Meeting

By Bill Hood, DTM, District 83 Director 2015-2016

One of the most important activities at the International Convention is the Annual Business Meeting. This is where we elect our future leaders of Toastmasters International; President-elect, First Vice President, Second Vice President and International Directors for odd or even numbered regions. This year we vote on the odd numbered regions.

Many of the candidates have already reached out to the Trio, District Director, Program Quality Director and Club Growth Director of all districts. It may have been a phone call, email, literature via standard mail, Facebook message, or LinkedIn message. We even had the two candidates for Region 9 International Director at our Spring Conference; Steve Chen and Jeff Sobel. The candidates and their biographies are posted online for your review: <https://www.toastmasters.org/About/Board-of-Directors> If you have any questions you want us to ask during the interviews, send them to me: RamapoMountainBill@gmail.com. There may be additional candidates running from the floor as well..

Club Growth Director Janice Buffalow, DTM, has scheduled District 83 for a 15-minute interview with all candidates before and after training at Las Vegas. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday tend to be very long days for us.

Candidates' Showcase is like Table Topics on steroids for all candidates and is usually held the night before the annual meeting. At the annual meeting, all opposed candidates get a two minute speech just prior to casting votes for that specific position.

Each club has two votes. If you're not attending the Annual Meeting, you can have any Toastmaster who is attending represent your club. You just need their member number. The club President or Secretary can log in to Club Central on the TI website to assign the club proxy. Of course you can always assign them to your District Director.

The 2015 Candidates:

International President-Elect, Mike Storkey, DTM
First Vice President, Balraj Arunasalam, DTM
Second Vice President, Lark Doley, Kevin Doyle & Mike Helm (DTM All)

TI did not list the educational designations for the International Director candidates.

International Director, Region 1, Margaret Page
International Director, Region 3, TK O'Geary & David Rebeles
International Director, Region 5, Eileen James & Magnus Jansson
International Director, Region 7, Russell Drake
International Director, Region 9, Steve Chen & Jeff Sobel
International Director, Region 11, Teresa Dukes & Elizabeth Nostedt
International Director, Region 13, Nagaraja Rao & Jorie Wu

The results of the 2014 Annual Business Meeting were as follows:

International President, Mohammed Murad, DTM
International President-Elect, Jim Kokocki, DTM
First Vice President, Mike Storkey, DTM
Second Vice President, Balraj Arunasalam, DTM
International Director, Region 2, Gloria Shishido, DTM
International Director, Region 4, Joan Watson, DTM
International Director, Region 6, Ross Mackay, DTM
International Director, Region 8, Dennis E. Wooldridge, DTM
International Director, Region 10, Ede Ferrari-D'Angelo, DTM
International Director, Region 12, Charlie Starrett, DTM
International Director, Region 14, Patrick Oei, DTM

For more information about the candidates, please see these links:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/About/Board-of-Directors/2015-International-Officer-Candidates>

<https://www.toastmasters.org/About/Board-of-Directors/2015-International-Director-Candidates>

New District Appointment Announced

District director Bill Hood, DTM appointed past District 46 governor Fran Okeson, DTM to the position of District 83 historian. Fran's predecessor was Sandy Scharf, DTM, who had been appointed by her husband, Paul who was the first District 83 governor after District 46 was split into two smaller districts in 2008. Before her death last October, Sandy brought the district scrapbook to all special events and took great pride in that position. Fran has asked Paul to join her committee and she will be contacting all clubs' VP Public Relations with what she and Paul will be looking for. Watch for the guidelines as soon as they become available.

Fran's contact information is (e) frantotten@verizon.net and (h) 718-984-1339.

If calling, please leave your name, club name and number, your telephone number with a brief message.

Kevin Moulton Has Done It Again!

Interview by Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALS

Kevin Moulton, who won the District 83 International Speech finals on Sunday, May 31 against formidable competition, has qualified to advance to the Region 9 semifinal round of the International Speech competition that will be held on Thursday, August 13 at 7:30 pm PT in Las Vegas. Kevin will be vying for one of the nine spots to compete in the finals for the World Championship of Public Speaking, taking place on Saturday, August 15 at 12 noon PT. Last year, Kevin qualified for the semi-final round that took place at the International Convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Recently, we interviewed Kevin and asked the following questions:

How many times have you won the District finals?

This is my second time winning the district championship. This year and last. In 2012, I came in second to Diane Parker.

How does it feel to win again?

It feels great. I learned so much last year, and it really paid off this year. What I really enjoy is how many people I've come to know in the process, both in District 83 and throughout Toastmasters.

What are you doing differently this time?

I learned so much last year by watching videos, reading books, talking to past World Champions, and watching my fellow competitors. When I got back from last year's International convention, I took everything that I had learned and boiled it down into the breakout session for our fall conference, called

"Take your Speech from Good to Great." I think that anyone who attended that session will recognize that my Underdog speech uses the exact framework that I taught. Winning speech contests is something you can learn to do.



What is the reward of competition?

There are so many rewards! To me, the greatest reward is reaching people with my stories. Last year, for example, I went to the semifinals in Malaysia, but I didn't win. I'm a competitive person, and I had worked hard to prepare, so that was disappointing. However, for the rest of the conference, Toastmasters from all over the world came up to me and told me how much my speech meant to them. My speech last year was about dogs. People were reciting my stories back to me, and then telling me all about their dogs. They wanted to share with me. I realized that, even though I hadn't won, I had reached people. That's why I do this.

The Toastmasters International Convention will take place in Las Vegas, Nevada, on August 12-15, 2015 at Caesars Palace. Toastmasters from around the world converge to network, attend workshops, and of course, see the highlight of the convention, the World Championship of Public Speaking!

Kevin Moulton, proud member of Summit Toastmasters, is a consummate speaker, and we know he will do well!

Photography by Lisa Fahoury.

Summit Toastmasters Celebrates 60th Anniversary

By Kevin Moulton, DTM

On June 24, Summit Toastmasters celebrated its 60th anniversary with a gala dinner meeting at Giorgio's Ristorante in South Orange.

The 41 dinner meeting guests included members new and old, spouses of members, and invited guests from District 83. Bill Hood, District 83's new District Director, was there with his lovely wife, RoseAnn. Janice Buffalow, District 83's Club Growth Director was there, along with her husband and fellow Somerville Toastmaster, Dave Chapman. Former District Governor Brian Lin also attended, along with District Chief Judge Sharon Tu.

Kevin Moulton, DTM served as the Toastmaster for the evening. Kelly Hufnagel, DTM, club VPE, led an entertaining round of Table Topics.



Bill Newmark, ACB shared his thoughts of his more than 25 years as a Summit Toastmaster. - Bill retired a few years ago. The crowd erupted when Bill announced how much he missed the club, and how he intended to rejoin!

The prepared speakers included Francesca Nielson, who educated the audience with interesting facts about the rich history of Summit Toastmasters, Amy McGlinn, CC, who entertained the audience with a lively history of toasting, and Dave Chapman, who delivered a moving, lyrical speech on friendship and fellowship.

Donna Felezzola, CC, CL and Kelly Hufnagel led an awards ceremony to honor the many members who met their communication and leadership goals during the year, and to honor the club for reaching President's Distinguished Status for the 11th consecutive year. Robin Gold received an award for her amazing attendance record, more that 80 percent! The club gave Kevin Moulton a reusable water bottle and a Toastmasters key chain to support him in his upcoming trip to Las Vegas to compete for the World Championship of Public Speaking.

Below: 2015-2016 board members (left to right): Chris Sprague, Vineet Anand, Kelly Hufnagel, Henry Kipp, Nacho Rosales.



Lisa Fahoury, ACS, ALB served as the official photographer for the evening (along with recommending Giorgio's!), Anita Fickensberger, CC, /CL did an amazing job inviting former Summit Toastmasters, many of whom attended the dinner. Kelly Bleach greeted the guests at the door and provided name tags to help the guests get to know each other.

Donna and Kelly also thanked the outgoing officers, and introduced the new ones. s

Vaneet Anand, CC, Summit Toastmasters incoming president, laid out our goals for the coming year.

Kevin Moulton then closed the meeting by inviting all guests to fill out an application and join Summit Toastmasters.

Giorgio's provided a sumptuous buffet meal and an anniversary cake. The service and ambience were outstanding.

It was a wonderful evening to celebrate the rich history of an amazing club.

Past Presidents - Front row (l to r): Adam Layne, Kelly Hufnagel, Anita Fickensberger, Donna Felezzola, Arthur Arnold, Kevin Moulton. Back row: Terry Viney, John Kirsimagi, Bill Newmark.

Photography by Lisa Fahoury.



Storytelling Toastmasters: What is Your Story?

By Lucy Kahn, DTM and Jason Velante, ACB

Storytelling Toastmasters Quinceañera Celebration!



Managala Gunadasa, ACB, telling his story.

In Latin culture, a Quinceañera marks a milestone of maturity. Our club has also blossomed after a decade-and-a-half of existence.

On Saturday, June 27, 2015, Storytelling Toastmasters inducted its new Executive Board with a 15-year Anniversary Luncheon Celebration at Baumgart's Café in Livingston, NJ.

Fifteen members, ranging from two founding members to

several of our newest additions, dined and shared thoughts on our esteemed club.

Jason J. Velante, Sr., ACB emceed the ceremonies.

Louise Marie Cluett-Thoresen, DTM shared the history of our beginnings and the transition of leadership over the years, while maintaining a storytelling focus to anchor any message.

Linda D. Bogner, ACB, ALB and immediate past president inducted the new Executive Board.

Many thanks to our previous Executive Board, who repeated our Distinguished Club Status. We'll hope for a repeat performance from our 2015-2016 board!

Executive Board 2014-2015

- President – Linda Bogner
- VP Education – Lucy Kahn
- VP Membership – Jason Velante
- VP Public Relations – Louise Cluett-Thoresen
- Treasurer – Ira Goodman
- Secretary – Linda Bogner
- Sergeant at Arms – Mary Ann Maltz
- Asst. VP Membership – John Stribling

Executive Board 2015-2016

- President – Lucy Kahn
- VP Education – Jason Velante
- VP Membership – Fran Mann-Goodman
- VP Public Relations – Mangala Gunadassa
- Treasurer – Ira Goodman
- Secretary – Chandra Venkataraman
- Sergeant at Arms – Linda Bogner



Above, from left: Chandrassekar Venkataraman, Secretary; Mangala Gunadasa, ACB, VP PR; Lucita Kahn, DTM, President; Jason Velante, ACB, CL, VP Education; Linda Bogner, ACB, ALB, Sergeant at Arms; and Louise Cluett Thoresen, DTM member.

Did You Know?

Here are some early highlights of the year 2000, the birth year of Storytelling Toastmasters!

Feb. 29, 2000 – 90-yr.-old Doris Haddock completed her walk (with arthritis & emphysema) from California to Washington DC to lead to Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002.

March 4, 2000 – PlayStation 2 released in Japan.

March 24, 2000 – NASDAQ soared to 5,132 (an all new high at that time) and then plunged 33% in 3 weeks, bottoming out at 3,321 in April as the DOT.COM bubble burst. Recently NASDAQ broke through 5,000. Déjà vu?

In 2000, Vladimir Putin was elected, promising to make Russia strong and a country.

April 13, 2000– suit filed against NAPSTER, leading to its eventual bankruptcy.

June 1, 2000– Storytelling Toastmasters Club is chartered



Above, Susan Meyers, a new member tells her story.

Photography by Richard Kahn

Special points of interest:
FOUNDED JUNE 1, 2000.
OVER 100 GUESTS AND MEMBERS.
DISTINGUISHED CLUB 3-YEARS

Upcoming Meetings: 9:00am
(1 ADP Blvd., Roseland, NJ)
SAT., AUG. 8, 2015
SAT., AUG. 22, 2015

AT&T Middletown Celebrates 15th Anniversary

By Thomas Kenny, ACB, ALS



On June 29th, 2015 the AT&T Middletown Toastmasters club celebrated its 15th anniversary. The club started small at AT&T in Lincroft NJ, and in the past few years the club has grown to serve a corporate community, the local community and those interested in attending a lunchtime Toastmasters club. The club meets every Monday (except for major holidays) from noon to 1 pm.

Guests are welcome, but please let us know in advance via our club's website contact form so we can inform corporate security that you'll be visiting.

Our club has achieved many awards and ribbons, which can be seen in the photo of our banner. We have been distinguished every year since 2006 and have been President's Distinguished since 2009! We believe our continued success is due to developing a complete DCP plan and completing goals early each year. AT&T Middletown Toastmasters also strives to help our district having hosted club officer training many times and providing volunteers for contest officials. District 83 International Speech contest winners Lisa Panarello, CC (2011) and Diane Parker (2012) visited our meetings to practice their speeches and receive feedback before the International Convention.

Many of our members have achieved many accomplishments beyond our club. For example, over the past few years many members have competed in contests at the area, division and district levels. Many members have been area governors/directors: Thomas Kenny, ACB, ALS (2012-2013); Annie O'Rourke, ACB, ALS (2013-2014); and Ibis Roman, ACS, ALB (2015-2016). Our club has been blessed to have club charter member Radhi Spear, DTM, ensure our club not only is healthy, but continues to thrive all these years. Radhi received a TI

Presidential Citation, is a past District 46 Governor and serves as our current Region 9 Advisor. Su Brooks, DTM, served as District Secretary (2013-2014) and edits our district's newsletters and conference programs. Another great club member achievement has been Brian Reynolds presenting a talk about climate change at the recent TEDxNavesink event held at Monmouth University.

If you're ever free at noon on a Monday in the Monmouth County area, please considering visiting our club!



Above at left, Tom Kenny, ACB, ALS, accepts his trophy from Rebecca Marzec, ACB, ALB, Area 41 Governor, 2014-2015.

Top and below: Members of AT&T Middletown Toastmasters at the club's 15-year anniversary celebration and club meeting.



Have You Ever Been Grilled?

By Phyllis Goldblatt, DTM

More than a few Toastmasters have felt grilled by evaluators. But none were ever grilled so competently and fully, and been so appreciated as those grilled on the evening of July 16, 2015.

The members of Speak and Lead Toastmasters Club all appreciated the efforts of our new Division H director, Tom Jenkins, ACB, ALB, as he grilled our hot dogs, hamburgers, steaks, chicken kabobs, and kielbasa. As gracious hosts for the evening, Tom and his wife, Anne Jenkins, ACB, ALB (2014-2015 Area 64 governor) welcomed us into the backyard of their home in North Arlington for our annual Installation Dinner meeting. It was our first attempt at an outdoor Installation, and Mother Nature cooperated fully, giving us a beautiful, warm evening. Even the baked beans decided to get in on the act, sitting there in Anne's Toastmaster slow cooker!

After a delicious meal, with contributions from most of the members present, our Toastmaster for the evening, Ashley Wilson, DTM (2014-2015 Division F governor), introduced our newest CC, Noreen Burns, to talk about what our club mission means to her. We were then honored to be able to hear from our new District 83 director, Bill Hood, DTM. After congratulating the club on another successful year as a Perfect 10 Club, he talked about the differences in leadership style between the Army and Toastmasters, and about what Toastmasters is all about. (Note to Fran O—credit for Vocal Variety)

Table Topics was conducted by our own 2014-2015 Area 61 governor, Edward Goldblatt, ACS, ALB. As usual, his varied questions gave each victim participant something to think about.

Our Toastmaster, Ashley; and our incoming president, Brandy Sharrock-Miller, ACB; engaged in some easy-going banter, sometimes completing each other's sentences, as they recognized the members who achieved educational awards during the 2014-2015 year, and presented our club awards:

Ashley Wilson – ALS, DTM
Brandy Sharrock-Miller – ACB
Phyllis Goldblatt – CC (5th), CL, ACB (2nd)
Edward Goldblatt – CC (2nd)
Tommy Wheeler – CC
Myo Myaing – CC (waiting for him to move back from Myanmar!)
Most Improved – Maria Ramos
Most Humorous – Christine Sparta
Most Dedicated – Javier Antela, CC
Introvert No More – Lynn Schatz, CC
Best Table Topics – Noreen Burns, CC
New Member of the Year – Stephen Gangone
Club Toastmaster of the Year – Carl Turso, CC

After our Ah counter and timer's reports, our general evaluator, Tom Jenkins made his comments about our very successful, enjoyable, filling meeting.

Then came the reason for the special event – our Installation. For the fifth year in a row, we were pleased to have our Installation conducted by our very good friend and supporter, Jim Samuel, DTM 6, PDG (46). He started by making a few well-placed comments. (Speeches by Management, Appraise with Praise) The officers installed were:

Brandy Sharrock-Miller, President and Sergeant at Arms
Edward Goldblatt, Vice President Education
Ashley Wilson, Vice President Public Relations and treasurer;
Javier Antela, Vice President Membership and secretary;

Following the Installation, our new president inspired us with a speech. After saying that she is our servant, she told us about her vision – to find out our “why” – why we each are here; and how her “why” has changed from needing to join Toastmasters to keep her job to enjoying being here and helping others. Her mission is to merge procedures and history with

F – family

U – unity

N – natural growth

(Persuasive Speaking. The Persuasive Leader)

Speak and Lead meets every Thursday evening in Rutherford 7:45-9:00 pm. During the school year, we meet at Rutherford High School. During the summer and on school holidays, we meet just across the street from the high school at St. John's Lutheran Church. Guests are always welcome. As part of District 83, we can start you on your Road to Success! We know that Every Member Matters, and we have Contagious Inspiration! Please come see us soon and join the FUN!

Moments of Truth – Flex Your TM Muscles for Power in Community

by Sherri Rase, ACB, ALB

Next time you extend your hand to welcome someone at the office, at church or to someone you happen to meet, consider the times you've used Toastmasters' Moments of Truth without being aware. The basic tenets of those Moments of Truth, one of the presentations available in the Successful Club Series, are great ways to build bridges in your community. What would our lives look like if the majestic Verrazano Bridge didn't connect Staten Island with Brooklyn, or the industrial beauty of the George Washington Bridge didn't treat us to a view of the Palisades when crossing into New Jersey? You are that bridge and the Moments of Truth are there for the weary, and the wary, traveler.

There are 6 sections to the Moments of Truth – First Impressions; Membership Orientation; Fellowship, Variety and Communication; Program Planning and Meeting Organization, Membership Strength and Achievement Recognition. Every organization you've joined – scouting, Eastern Star, Boys and Girls Clubs and local sports teach these, but not formally. Here in Toastmasters, you can capitalize on your existing skills and develop new ones.

Remember the first time you stepped into the club that is now like a second home? Moments of Truth don't happen in lock-step, one after another; they swirl around us like a summer breeze. Someone before you had organized the meeting and planned it for the enjoyment of all who attend, even though they hadn't met you yet. Because of the friendly environment

I may not be the Verrazano or the George Washington Bridge. I bridge people and communities – I am a Toastmaster.

created, people who enjoyed the meeting encouraged others to join, promoting Membership Strength. The world would be deadly dull and boring if we were all brown-haired, brown-eyed people or all hazel-eyed blondes. Toastmasters provides variety

in membership, events offered, contests (whether competing or providing good-audience), education programs that expand the horizons of your membership and encourages people to take risks knowing that to question is to grow. When someone decides to join the club it's because of the first two Moments – you felt welcome from the very beginning, rather than welcomed then set adrift. And when the new member is welcomed into the club, the orientation process helps us get to know you and for you to know us so we determine how we fit within our community.

That's not enough, though. Expanding a club's reach by building bridges to the community exponentially multiplies our influence. How many students are bullied because they don't have a voice? We can help by holding a Youth Leadership Program to help the introverted leaders come forward in the sea of extroverts. We can help with communications styles to help people work better with one another. We can facilitate conversations and help negotiate difficult situations. Why? We took those moments of truth and we bridged the gap we identified. I may not be the Verrazano or the George Washington Bridge. I bridge people and communities – I am a Toastmaster.

Leadership Letter: The following piece was posted to the website of club 4229, Fairleigh Early Birds, Rutherford, New Jersey, by their VPE.

Dear friends,

Toastmasters is here to teach communication and leadership in a friendly and non-judgmental environment. That's always what I have loved about it.

If you stick around, attend meetings, show interest, and are so inclined, the time will come when you are invited to take a leadership role. Toastmasters is chock-full of leadership roles just for that reason: so everyone who wants to can, be included in that aspect of the program at some point.

The acid test of a leader is not just how well he or she does the appointed job. The ultimate test—the final exam—is how well they let go when it's time to let go.

It may be oh-so-tempting to hang onto the functions of a job once that job has passed to someone else. But you can't! What would it look like if the Olympic torch didn't get passed on, but the first runner kept hold of it? The second runner would feel like an idiot, and there would be general embarrassment.

So resist the temptation to hold on and keep running things. You may be preventing someone else from fulfilling their own destiny, and you may be dragging a club down without realizing it. Allow people to stand on their own two feet. Share your wisdom only when asked. Pass the torch and be proud that you got a chance to hold it.

Letting go. It's what a leader does.

Cordially yours,

Jon Hall, ACB, CL
VPE, Fairleigh Early Birds Toastmasters
Rutherford, NJ

You are invited to share your ideas with other Toastmasters by writing open letters to the D83 community.

In the Limelight: Oren Levin, Area 82 Director

By Lynda Starr, DTM

We've all heard the expression, "if you want to get something done, ask a busy person to do it." This clearly describes the professional, personal and Toastmaster life of the new area 82 director, Oren Levin. A charter member of Washington Park Toastmasters, he has served as VP Education, VP Membership, VP Public Relations, and Treasurer of the club and currently is the club president. He has also earned an ACB, after completing the Public Relations and Technical Presentations manuals. Oren has also competed in Area Table Topics contests, placing second.

Oren works at Audible Inc., an Amazon company, having recently celebrated his 15-year anniversary at Audible (end of July) as a software developer. In college at the University of Illinois, he studied to be a city planner. One of the graduation requirements at the University of Illinois is two semesters of Rhetoric or three semesters of Speech Communications. Expecting to be a planner giving presentations, Oren took the three semesters of Speech Communications. Fast forward to a couple years ago when a co-worker sent out an email inviting fellow Audible employees to a Toastmasters demonstration meeting. Oren walked out of that meeting as a charter member of Washington Park Toastmasters and the vice president of Public Relations.

Oren credits Toastmasters with helping him to "more clearly hear what I take in. Roles like Grammarian and Ah-Counter force me to listen more closely to the mechanics of speaking. Evaluations force me to process what I've hearing and build a coherent response to it (think Table Topics on steroids). Being aware of my own Ums and Ahs has changed my speaking

habits (admittedly slower that I would like but that's another discussion) and allowed me tongue a better chance of catching up with my brain. Together these have given me the ability to hear more of what is said and to response more concisely."

He is looking forward to his term as area director. In particular, he is excited to learn from the clubs in his area. Oren explains, "As a club officer I've often gone outside my area or division for officer training. I've found the cross-pollination of idea from different clubs very helpful in training and expect that I will learn similar things from the clubs in my area." He is also looking forward to helping each club be as successful as possible. Oren says he "will do everything I can to help each club achieve a Distinguished Club award."

Outside Toastmasters, Oren is involved in search and rescue and has been a member of New Jersey Search and Rescue (NJSAR) for 18 years where he is currently the Vice President of NJSAR. New Jersey Search and Rescue is a group of well-trained and dedicated volunteers who provide free wilderness search-and-rescue operations upon request of local authorities. Founded in 1950, NJSAR includes K9, Mountain Rescue, Incident Management, Communications, and Medical units on call 24x7x365.

Oren lives in West Orange with his wife of 15 years and his three children.



"Imagine a place where everyone chooses to bring energy, passion, and a positive attitude every day."

– Stephen C. Lundin

Stephen Lundin is the author of FISH, a book discussing workplace issues such as employee retention and burnout. The book offers tips such as choose your attitude and it's better if you can find fun in any task; make someone's day; be present in the moment, and help others to develop this way of behaving. In this pressure-filled world with job, home and even Toastmaster stresses, it is important to have a good attitude, to keep perceived trials in perspective and believe as our district director Bill Hood says, "inspiration can be contagious."

District 83 Leaders 2015-2016

District Director	Bill Hood, DTM
Program Quality Director	Paula Markert, DTM
Club Growth Director	Janice Buffalow, DTM
Administration Manager	Terence Pyle, DTM
Finance Manager	Maxine Cohen, ACB, ALB
Public Relations Manager	Swathi Karamcheti, ACS, ALB
Club Extension Chair	Willie Markert, ACB, CL
Webmaster	Ashley Wilson, DTM
Logistics Manager	Roseann Hood
Youth Leadership Coordinator	Paul Scharf, DTM 5
Awards & Recognition	<vacant>
Parliamentarian	Lisa Pantano, DTM
HPL Coordinator	Fran Okeson, DTM 18, PDG (46)
Retention Chair	Sherri Rase, ACS, ALB
Nomination Committee Chair	Anne Gilson, DTM
Photographer	<vacant>
District Chief Judge	Sharon Tu, ACS, ALS
Realignment Chair	Phyllis Goldblatt, DTM
District Newsletter Co-Editor	Su Brooks, DTM
District Newsletter Co-Editor	Lynda Starr, DTM
Fall Conference Co-Chair	Alex Volyand, ACS, CL
Fall Conference Co-Chair	Emilia Volyand, ACG, ALB
Spring Conference Co-Chair	Olga Berejnaia, DTM
Spring Conference Co-Chair	Catherine Ruiterman, ACS, ALS
TLI Dean	Isaak Gelbinovich, DTM

Division and Area Directors

Division A Director	Janette Alexander, ACS, ALS
Area 11 Director	Karen Lambert, CC, ALB
Area 12 Director	Aaron Allen
Area 13 Director	Karen Jordan, CC, ALB
Area 14 Director	Richard Zarate, ACS, ALB
Division B Director	Catherine Ruiterman, ACS, ALS
Area 21 Director	Mike Rutkowski, ACG, ALB
Area 22 Director	Susan Chrusciel, CC, ALB
Area 23 Director	Liz Sisco, CC, ALB
Area 24 Director	Dorothy Noble, CC

Division C Director	Rasika Venkataraman, CC, CL
Area 31 Director	<vacant>
Area 32 Director	Jeffrey Barbieri, CC
Area 33 Director	Sanjay Suryarao, CC, CL
Area 34 Director	Michelle Tropper, ACS, CL

Division D Director	Rebecca Marzec, ACB, ALB
Area 41 Director	Susan Frost
Area 42 Director	Manuel Reyes, CC
Area 43 Director	Kaila Lim, CC
Area 44 Director	Sylvia Badenhausen, ACB, ALB

Division E Director	Olga Berejnaia, DTM
Area 51 Director	Sunil Robert Vuppula, ACB
Area 52 Director	Thomas Grady, ACG, ALB
Area 53 Director	Kathryn Timpson, CC, CL
Area 54 Director	Sharon Brown ACS, ALB
Area 55 Director	Anthony Raimondo, ACB, ALB

Division F Director	John Connors, DTM
Area 61 Director	Ibis Roman, ACS, ALB
Area 62 Director	Victor Martins, ACB, ALB
Area 63 Director	Lynda Wonski, ACG, ALB
Area 64 Director	John Weibel, DTM

Division G Director	Laura Healy Santo
Area 71 Director	Nelson Cyprien
Area 72 Director	Oomadai Rampersaud, CC, ALB
Area 73 Director	Djuna Barnes, CC, ALB
Area 74 Director	Donald Kardos, ACB, ALB
Area 75 Director	Karl Tremml, ACS, ALB

Division H Director	Thomas Jenkins, ACB, ALB
Area 81 Director	Helen Gucwa, ACB, ALB
Area 82 Director	Oren Levin, ACB, ALB
Area 83 Director	Sidy Ndiaye, CC
Area 84 Director	Wendy Moses, ACS
Area 85 Director	<vacant>

Division I Director	Ruby Scotland, ACS, CL
Area 91 Director	Uday Bhoopalram, DTM
Area 92 Director	Yongjun Li
Area 93 Director	Paul Thompson, DTM
Area 94 Director	Jim Samuel, DTM 6, PDG (46)
Area 95 Director	<vacant>



Contagious Inspiration!

By Bill Hood, DTM,
District 83 Director 2015-2016

Have you seen the 2009 movie "Invictus?" One of my favorite parts of the movie is when Nelson Mandela, played by Morgan

Freeman, has a discussion about leadership. The President of South Africa asks the rugby captain, played by Matt Damon, a couple of questions, "What is your philosophy on leadership? How do you inspire your team to do their best?" They talked about leading by example; finding inspiration in a poem or a song or in others; and how the survival of the country depended on inspiring people to be more than they ever dreamed they could be.

Take a moment and let that thought sink in. What is your philosophy on leadership? Tears come to my eyes when I drill into the depths of true leadership. There are many people in my life who have inspired me to be more than I thought possible. But I never thought of them as a leader until now. People whom I don't know have helped me with their words both spoken and written. People I know very well have always been there for me and lifted me up in my darkest hour. Are they all leaders?

We can all have a positive effect on people's lives. We can help them find their inspiration and in turn encourage them to help others find inspiration just by telling their story. I've been touched by countless speeches given in contests and club settings. It may be a personal story or it may be a deep dive into a specific technology. When you hear them, your spirit is lifted and you find new energy.

Find your passion! Give a speech about it. Let your excitement inspire the audience. Do it with tact, professionalism and eloquence. We can do this. We can tell others about what is important to us in a way that is not offensive or judgmental. You may need to start out small and work your way up to the heavy topic. Or you may be okay just keeping it simple. Either way, Toastmasters is a laboratory for finding your voice. Let your passion inspire others to be more than they ever thought possible. If someone is crushed by the weight of the world, show them the words that inspired President Mandela.

"Invictus"

by William Ernest Henley

*Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.*

*In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.*

*Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds, and shall find me, unafraid.*

*It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.*

CONTAGIOUS INSPIRATION!

- a. uncontrollable spreading of inspiration among the masses
- b. inspiration that inspires others to be inspirational
- c. a sudden feeling of finding purpose in life, the renewed commitment to see it through and the incredible energy to make it happen. When this happens, it usually ignites in one or more persons and spreads to a multitude of people rapidly. Toastmasters meetings are ground zero for catching contagious inspiration.

– Bill

ROOM TO READ: SPRING CONFERENCE BOOK DRIVE FOLLOW UP

Thank you again for all of your support for Room to Read in hosting and promoting the book drive at the TM Spring Conference. I am truly grateful. The book donations were wonderful and the publicity is priceless!

Thank you to all the generous Toastmasters who donated books at the Spring Conference! The Central New Jersey volunteer chapter of Room to Read raised \$1200 for the global nonprofit at the 4th Annual Book & Bake Sale held in Basking Ridge last week. The book sale encourages local children to read over the summer and helps children in low income countries receive original titles printed in their native language published by Room to Read for just \$1 each!

Room to Read began in Nepal in 2000 and has helped nearly 10 MILLION children gain access to education in 10 countries in Africa and Asia. UNICEF estimates 1 million children have been displaced from school due to the recent earthquakes in Nepal. Room to Read is committed to distributing 500,000 copies of reading materials to engage students in reading when they return to school. Room to Read believes World Change Starts with Educated Children. Thank you, Toastmasters, for changing the world through literacy!

Gratefully yours,

Nicole Smith, CC
Speech Meisters Club
www.roomtoread.org

Editors' Note: Continuing our tradition of community outreach, District 83 will offer Fall Conference attendees an opportunity to participate in a Food Drive to benefit the North Brunswick Food Bank HELP program: Hunger Eliminated by Local People.

SUMMER TRAINING REMINDER: LAST CALL

Why should you attend Club Officer Training?

- Clubs earn part of one DCP point for goal number 9:
A minimum of four club officers trained during each of the two training periods (summer and winter training).
- Better yet, encourage all seven of your club officers to attend in the summer and in the winter and earn TI gift certificates from the district.
- In the summer you learn your job, in the winter you go over what went well, and what challenges you are experiencing as an officer.
- In addition to the Toastmasters training curriculum, you have the opportunity to network with other club officers and share your experiences.
- Even if you have held the office before, you learn so much from other Toastmasters.
- There is a general session with information for all officers, followed by breakout sessions where you learn about your specific officer role.
- You receive credit towards your ALB (Advanced Leader Bronze) award.

Please visit the District website Club Officer Training page for information about upcoming training sessions. Summer training concludes at the end of August.

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

CLUB NEWSLETTER CONTEST 2015-2016

Does your club have a newsletter? If so, consider entering our newsletter contest! If not, consider creating one.

While providing club information, the newsletter team may earn credit toward goals in the Competent Leader manual.

Contest Criteria:

- Must use current TI logo
- May use TI templates or create your own layouts.
- Club must be in good standing.
- Issues dated between July 1, 2015 and March 1, 2016 are eligible.

- **Deadline for submissions: April 15, 2016.**
- 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.
- Results will be announced at the District 83 Spring 2016 Conference.
- Prize details will be announced in an upcoming District Newsletter.

The judges will evaluate the newsletters using these guidelines:

Maximum points per category are shown at right.

Does the newsletter contain educational articles, recognition of member and club achievements, and promote participation in Toastmasters' activities?	25
Is the newsletter informative and entertaining?	25
Does content appear to be well-compiled?	20
Does text follow rules of grammar, free from typos?	10
Is layout attractive?	10
Do graphics provide logical connection to story or provide valuable information?.....	10

Carpe Diem Open House

By *Uday Bhoopalam, DTM*

Carpe Diem Toastmasters of Parsippany hosted an Open House on Saturday, July 18 at the Parsippany Library. The event was geared toward 'Finding a Dream Job' for all the recent graduates entering the job market for the first time as well as individuals looking for a better job opportunity.

Dale Favia, a job developer and placement specialist at County College of Morris, was the guest speaker. She focused on utilizing success stories in your resume and job interview. She also discussed the importance of communicating with confidence, and the ability to converse with ease was emphasized at the open house.

Uday Bhoopalam, past president of the club, came up with the idea of the Open House and he implemented it with the cooperation of the club members. Uday was also the Toastmaster at the Open House. The Open House was a group effort on the part of club members.

Irene Freeman, president of the club, provided an overview of Toastmasters International through a PowerPoint Presentation.

Brian Ruderman clearly explained what a typical Toastmasters is like by displaying one of the previous meeting agendas.

Warren Ruderman, club vice president, took the initiative of placing the ad as well as coordinating with the guest speaker.

Yongjun Li, vice president of public relations, was in charge of designing the Open House flyers, printing and distributing them at the local stores in the community.

Narendra Pondugula, vice president of membership was the official greeter as well as the photographer at the event.

Mark Scheuble, club secretary, served as a greeter and coordinated the Q&A session.

Bin Zhao, in-house expert in Table Topics focused Table Topics on Employment and kept the afternoon interesting.

Club officers worked together as a team and skillfully executed the entire project. I am very thankful to have such great dedicated members, whose common goal was to recruit new members and grow the club.

Carpe Diem Toastmasters is a 2014-2015 President Distinguished club and wishes to be a President's Distinguished club in 2016. All plans are in place to encourage members to actively participate in club meetings and become excellent communicators and leaders.

We are now mentally ready to host Open Houses more frequently in the future. We thank Toastmasters District 83 directors for their encouragement and moral support. We are also very thankful to the Parsippany library for providing the state-of-the-art conference with audio-video capabilities.

We are now empowered with ability to work together and bring our individual best to the table. Lesson Learned: You only learn by doing it. [Please visit http://carpediem.toastmastersclubs.org](http://carpediem.toastmastersclubs.org) for meeting location/directions.



Toys R Us Corporate Award

By Robert McHugh

On May 29th, Toastmasters Region 9 International Director, Richard Peck, DTM, visited the Toys R Us corporate headquarters in Wayne, NJ to present an Excellent Corporate Supporter award recognizing Toys R Us, Inc. for its efforts enhancing employee engagement through continuing support of Toastmasters communication and leadership programs. Steve Waxman, Toys R Us executive director – facilities, graciously accepted the award on behalf of the Toys R Us Corporation.

Toys R Us is the home to ToyMasters Toastmasters Club, formed in 2008. The club is open only to Toys R Us employees.

Robert McHugh is immediate past president of ToyMasters Toastmasters Club.



Photography by Sandra Ribeiro

How an Idea Can Grow to Something Bigger and Better with Even an Award!

By Janette Alexander, ACS, ALS

Not long after I joined Toastmasters as a member of the Solix corporate club back in 2009, I had an idea to help club members achieve their leadership awards. It happened when I served as a club officer and attended an officer training event. An idea popped into my head and I began thinking to myself, "This is something our club could do. We just moved to a brand new building so we have the space to host something like this." I also quickly realized that by hosting a training event it would give our club members plenty of opportunity to finish off tasks needed toward leadership awards. The grey matter started to stir. I started asking questions and investigating. I shared my idea with other club members to see if anyone would help and our club president at the time, Kevin Conroy, was behind it. I reached out to the area, division and district officers. The division governor, John Harvey, was a Solix employee so, of course, he was supportive.

Once I convinced myself to take action, making it happen with the help of my club members, area, division and district officers wasn't as hard as I thought it would be. You are never alone when you are a Toastmaster! This was a team effort! All of this occurred back in August of 2010. Since then, the Solix Toastmasters have regularly hosted a bi-annual officer training event without fail. As I had anticipated, several club members were able to complete their CL or ALB because of our hosting this event.

Through it all, my company, Solix, Inc., has been very supportive and willing to have Toastmasters descend on our offices and conference rooms. Of course Toastmasters are stellar guests and we always left everything in good shape,

*You are never alone
when you are a
Toastmaster!*



which made the company all the more happy to continue to allow our club to host the event. If ever there was a "Win – Win" situation, we enjoyed it!

Five years later, when I was least expecting it, I received a message from then district governor, Anne Gilson that

Toastmasters International wished to present Solix with an award in appreciation for its support! I was surprised, happy and proud of my company and our Solix Toastmasters! On May 29, 2015, Solix, Inc. received the Excellent Corporate Supporter award from Toastmasters International. It was presented by Richard Peck, DTM, who was the then International Director for Region 9. Accepting the award for Solix was Gene King, director of Corporate Communications and Public Affairs. Unfortunately, Anne Gilson could not attend, but our current District Director, Bill Hood, was in attendance with Paula Markert, then LGM. Solix Toastmasters in attendance included then club president Ginel Acedieu, now club president Kris Serieux, Tracey Polifka, Pat Carroll, Sherri Rase, and myself, Janette Alexander.

Janette Alexander serves as Division A Director.

Area 64: Staten Island Points of Interest

By Fran Okeson, DTM18, PDG (46)

Fourteen years ago, Joan Maurizio, DTM 3 and I were asked by Past District 46 Governor Himendu Chauduri, DTM to entertain Belinda Greiner, wife of the new Toastmasters International President Jon Greiner. We decided to show her some of the points of special interest on Staten Island. Belinda arrived early from the hotel and we spent about nine hours showing her why we appreciate living on an island in between two great states — New York and New Jersey. I decided to include our



complete itinerary for our members to keep as a reference for additional forays across the “bridges.”

As the District’s High Performance Leadership Coordinator, I’m planning my 34th HPL project to introduce off-islanders as well as members of Area 64 to join me for an afternoon of education and culture that will leave attendees in awe of what they will see and learn. (Cameras will be an important part of the “gear” for the day!) The underlying goal of this HPL is to increase membership in Staten Island clubs. We have so much

to offer people who think Staten Island is just a shortcut to Brooklyn. My plan is to offer an interesting and educational outing for friends who don’t know what we islanders take for granted.



The main focus for the day will be the New York Chinese Scholar’s Garden. The large pagoda is breathtakingly beautiful. There is a koi pond with fish that follow you as you walk by. The story is that 100 Chinese artisans came from China and spent their time living in the old governor’s mansion on the grounds. Huge rocks were sent from China and arranged by the workers in classic designs and formations. (see photos.)

Also, on the grounds is the John A. Noble Maritime Museum with his restored houseboat studio inside. His sketches of waterfront scenes are world famous.

There is a small fee to enter the different buildings. If you’d like to join me on Sunday, October 18th at 1pm, please let me know at frantotten@verizon.net.

According to district director Bill Hood, there are no District activities planned on that date.

Area 64: Toastmasters Civic Report

By Fran Okeson, DTM18, PDG (46)

Toastmasters from several clubs in Area 64 conducted a Demo meeting at Coast Guard Sector, New York at Fort Wadsworth. Leading the High Performance Leadership project was Area 64 assistant director and District 83 HPL coordinator Fran Okeson, president of the Smedley’s Speakers Advanced club. Joining her was John A. Weibel, Area 64 director; Mary J. Bacheller, president of the Business Leaders club; Dave Chapman, a member of Somerville Toastmasters and Lt. Joseph M. Liffriq who set up the event with Mrs. Okeson. Lt. Liffriq will be joining the North Shore club and the other Coast Guard personnel will become members of the other existing clubs in Area 64. The group decided to meet once a month and bring Toastmasters back to Fort Wadsworth.

Mrs. Okeson chartered the Liberty Toastmasters club in 2000 at the base with Chief Samuel J. Thompson as the club’s first president. Lt. Peggy Kennedy was the second club president. Several years later, because areas couldn’t have more than six clubs, it was decided to merge the Liberty Toastmasters club with the Staten Island Toastmasters club, becoming the Staten

Island-Liberty Toastmasters club. Lt. Commander Carissa Aprile later became the newly-named club’s president. At the demo meeting, it was decided to welcome all current and retired servicemen and women to attend the next meeting and join the program. The meetings will be on a once-a-month basis in Building 204 at Fort Wadsworth.

This newsletter article was adapted from a July 10 article in silive.com.

All photography on this page by Fran Okeson, DTM 18, PDG (46).



Lt. Yvonne Yang and Dave Chapman.

The General Evaluator

By Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALS

The General Evaluator observes everything that takes place during the club meeting, and in addition, leads the evaluation portion of the meeting, assisted by his or her evaluation team that includes the speech evaluators, ah counter, grammarian and timer. This role is important! Through your observations, your club will be able to assess the level of efficiency that exists, and where improvements can be made.

As a General Evaluator, notice the following:

GUESTS

Did members welcome guests as they walked in? Was printed information available? Were they introduced during the meeting? Were they invited to join the club?

START OF THE MEETING:

Did the meeting start on time? Was the call to order, invocation, pledge (if used), and opening handled smoothly?

INTRODUCTIONS

Add a little flavor! Rather than just announce the name of those filling roles, say something about them that lets those present get to know them a little better.

TABLE TOPICS

Were topics appropriate? Did Table Topicsmaster take too much time introducing the questions and topics? Did the Table Topics segment end on time? Did the Table Topics master call on members who did not have speaking roles?

SPEAKERS

Were the speakers prepared, and did their speeches comply with manual requirements? Were manuals actually used? If a new member is delivering an Icebreaker speech, was he/she encouraged at the beginning and end of the speech?

EVALUATIONS

Did the evaluator introduce the speaker and provide the audience with the objectives of the speech? During the evaluation, did the evaluator acknowledge the positive attributes, suggest points of improvement, and congratulate the speaker on a job well done, based on speaker experience?

TIMER, AH COUNTER/GRAMMARIAN, TABLE TOPICSMASTER

Were the timing limits observed? Were the reports helpful, smooth, audible and positive?

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

Did everyone enjoy the meeting? What were the highlights? Where did you feel there was room for improvement?

GENERAL EVALUATOR SCRIPT

Good afternoon, fellow Toastmasters and a warm welcome to our guests.

For the benefit of our guests, I am the general evaluator today. First I will call on members of my evaluation team, which consists of the speech evaluators, timer, and ah counter/

grammarian. Afterward, I will present my evaluation of the meeting.

[Since corporate clubs are limited to one hour, you may omit a formal introduction of the evaluation team members and call upon them by name.]

Help me welcome [evaluator #1]_____
to evaluate the speech given by [speaker
#1]_____

[Lead the applause; shake hands as you turn control of the lectern to the evaluator.]

[When the evaluator completes the evaluation of the speech, return to the lectern and shake hands with the evaluator as he returns to his seat.]

[Say a sentence or two to acknowledge the evaluation. Also, if the evaluator did not have a suggestion for improvement or something to try differently, give one now. If the evaluation was harsh, restore a positive tone. Evaluations build up the speaker's confidence and abilities.]

[Repeat above for as many evaluators as speakers]

Next we'll here from the grammarian*
 _____ who's been listening for good uses of the language as well as points for improvement. The Grammarian also listens to how many of you use the word of the day. Please help me welcome _____.

The Ah counter* tracks the use of filler words, such as ah's and um's, that come out of our mouths while we think of the next thing to say. These verbal pauses detract from our message, and we stop counting at five. Our Ah Counter is _____.

It is important to get your message across in the allotted time, and for the meeting to run according to schedule. Please help me welcome our Timer, _____.

Now I have a few comments on the meeting as a whole.

That concludes the general evaluation segment. Let's welcome back our Toastmaster of the Day, _____. [Lead the applause.]

*Some meetings have one person perform these roles.

The Subject Line Tells All

By Lynda Starr, DTM and Margarita Estrada, ACB, ALS

According to market research firm The Radicati Group, a business person sent and received, on average, 121 emails a day, in 2004, and this trend is expected to grow to 140 emails a day by 2018. Moreover, while technologies such as social networking, instant messaging (IM), mobile IM, and others are taking hold, email remains the most pervasive and ubiquitous form of communication in the business world.

How can we — in business and in Toastmasters — give our email messages a chance to rise above the growing tide of emails? The short answer, to paraphrase The Shoop Shoop Song; it's In the Subject Line. This article will offer tips on how to write subject lines that will increase the open rate of your emails.

The subject line is the most important part of your email; consequently, it should be given the respect it deserves. Write the subject line first to highlight the main objective of the email while piquing interest. Keep in mind your audience and what you can do for them. A typical subject line should be roughly eight-to-ten words with the most important words first. As people use mobile devices with small screens to read email, they may only see the beginning if words are cut off. With under-10 words to use, each one is critically important and should not be wasted. It is useful to guide the reader with words such as FYI, Response required, Due August 15, etc. Avoid any words that the email service would pick up as SPAM such as BUY NOW, FREE, or ACT NOW and moreover, do not use all capital letters.

Some Toastmasters-appropriate email subject lines include:

Sign up by Tuesday for a 9/8 meeting role
(Action-oriented)

Register Now: Toastmasters Fall Conference: Excellence in 5-7 Minutes (Action-oriented)

Area/Division Directors: Need Your Reports for Saturday
(Action-oriented)

Ready for some Tall Tales? — Area 15 contest
September 18 (Action-oriented)

Fall into the Conference: Early Registration ends 9/30 (Pun)

You're Invited: Dining to Speak Anniversary Party

Uh-oh, (Club Name) TM membership is expiring
(Action-oriented)

It is useful to test the subject line with a subset of the full recipient list. Take two of your possible subject lines and your email message and send half the test group one and half, the other. Keep track of the number sent to each and the response and open rates for each one.

Writing a good subject line is a balancing act. On the one hand, you need to be concise and leave out unnecessary words; on the other hand, you need to avoid being vague so that the reader can quickly identify why the email would be of interest.

With time, practice and evaluation of results, everyone can become a great subject line writer, which leads to better open and response rates.

Upcoming District 83 Tall Tales and Table Topics Contests

Club Level Contests:August

Area Level Contests:September

Division Level Contests:October

**District 83 Humorous Speech and
Table Topics Contests:**November 14, 2015

<http://toastmasters83.org/-speech-contests/division-area-contests.html>

The website will continue to be updated with more information this season as the Area and Division Directors schedule their contests.

The First Annual Sandy Scharf Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI)

By Sunil Robert Vuppula, ACB

More than 90 Toastmasters representing the entire district gathered on a rainy Saturday morning at ToysRUs Headquarters, Wayne, NJ, courtesy of District Director, Bill Hood, DTM, for the Sandy Scharf Summer Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI). After a quick dunk into donuts and bagels, Toastmasters were ushered into a massive auditorium where Bill Hood welcomed the group.

The poignant moment of the day came when Sandy Scharf's District 46 test speech video was shown to the audience after a brief introduction by Paul Scharf, DTM 5. The video was a reminder that Toastmasters is a large family that no matter what happens in our life, there is this large community that comes alongside and shares our journey. The video was a befitting tribute to a shining light in the District. Her speech entitled "Vertically Challenged – Small Frame" highlighted the many problems associated with being short in stature. It was a delightful expression of self-deprecating humor and contained all the elements that make up a great speech, props, vocal variety, tight organization, and above all, endearing content. Bill Hood, the 2015-2016 District 83 director discussed vision, risk and inspiration as Toastmaster tools. First, one starts with a vision and then creates a path of hard work for achieving that vision and converting it into reality. To achieve one's vision, one must take advantage of available resources such as the district, Toastmasters International. Moreover, one needs to take some risks and if things do not go as planned, rework the plan. Bill explained that, "if you don't take risks, you won't learn." The last step is to motivate others to follow their own paths, what Bill refers to as "contagious inspiration."

Tom Somers, DTM, PDG, conducted a quick orientation on how to achieve Distinguished Club status. Totally engaging, Tom helped the attendees conduct a SWOT analysis for achieving success. A seasoned DTM, Tom reminded us that it is all about one dictum – "plan the work and work the plan." Then there were focused breakout sessions for each club officer that was facilitated by the senior leaders of the district. There were three specific workshops that were conducted by Janice Buffalow, DTM, Paul Scharf and Janette Alexander, ACS, ALS, on running a club contest, enhancing evaluations, and creating a quality club, respectively.

The second half of the day was a training session for the new area directors of all the divisions that comprise District 83. In

addition to giving an overview of the key leadership responsibilities of the area directors (formerly known as area

governors) there were similar breakout sessions that focused on "Moments of Truth", "Conducting Great Contests", and "Effective Area Training Programs."

Sharon Tu, ACS, ALS, a past division governor, shared how some of her best practices led to outstanding results and how the new area/division directors could potentially benefit from such effort. "Data tells stories," she said. "As a statistician, I always tried to look at the historical data from the past three years to get a great perspective about a club."

Paul Scharf presented a breakout session on Enhancing Evaluations. He provided tips for offering quality evaluations. These tips included:

- Ask the speaker, to what you should pay attention
- Direct the evaluation specifically to the speaker
- Focus on the goals of the assignment rather than the speech content
- Use the sandwich approach
- Have a conversation with the speaker after the oral evaluation

The last breakout sessions of the day enabled area directors in each division to gather with their division directors and plan out critical activities for the next couple of months such as conducting club officer training and scheduling club level contest dates.

In his concluding remarks, Bill Hood reminded us about Colonel Sanders and 3M and how repeated failures are a flip side of risk taking and bold steps. "We may not succeed at everything, but we will keep trying new ideas," he opined. "It is not just about programs and plans but it is about offering the best Toastmasters experience to every member who comes."

"It was like drinking from a fire hydrant," said a first-time area director. "I am delighted to have attended this TLI and see the passion and the energy of the entire District in one place. I'm so looking forward to journeying with this awesome group in the days ahead." (*More about TLI on page 24.*)



Photography by Richard Kahn

I'll Be There for You (And Your Icebreaker)

By Susan Chrusciel, CC, ALB

So no one told you life was going to be this way...

You're scrolling through your Facebook feed and see something that you find funny or touching, your first instinct is to click "share" and share it with your friends and suddenly everyone can see the cute kitten picture that made your Monday a little brighter. Facebook didn't invent the idea of sharing something with friends, although it might've made it easier to do so digitally. Since the dawn of time, humans have shared tips and ideas with those they care about — everything from where to find the best berries, to how to build a fire, to even that great Toastmasters club you just joined.

In fact, a new happy member will often invite a family member, friend or coworker to come visit their club. However, there are limitations to this, maybe your home club is corporate and has a closed membership or the meeting time and location aren't convenient for your friend's schedule. Dejected, you think "too bad I can't share this experience." Actually, you can by encouraging your friend to join another club.

This is the situation my friends and I found ourselves in. It all started back in 2013 when Rebecca Marzec, ACB, ALB, and Eric De Vincenzo, CC, (Red Bank Toastmasters, Talk of Monmouth) encouraged me to join my corporate club. I joined and advanced to the Area 22 International Speech contest this past spring. Intimidated at the thought of my first major competition, I called out my cheering section and invited Gardenia Dargon (Celgene), Stephen Fincham (Brunswick Toastmasters) and Nikitas Marangos (Old Bridge Toastmasters) to attend and all three joined their respective clubs within a few months after the contest.



At Brunswick Toastmasters (left to right): Eric De Vincenzo, CC, (Red Bank, Talk of Monmouth), Stephen Fincham (Brunswick), Susan Chrusciel, CC, ALB (Bayer, Northern Stars, Open Door).

In celebration of completing his Ice Breaker, Stephen Fincham was given a pack of Icebreakers by his friends.

As friends before Toastmasters, we've found new bonding opportunities now that we share this experience together. We get just as excited for communication awards as we do for Ice Breakers. We try to visit each other's clubs whenever schedules permit. Recently, Eric and I visited Brunswick Toastmasters to cheer on Stephen Fincham when he gave his Ice Breaker. This is a tradition we plan on continuing as more of our friends join Toastmasters and give their first speeches — and we're already heavily recruiting!

One day, we'll be cheering as the first one of us walks the DTM gauntlet at the district conference, but until then we share the tips we've picked up from our respective clubs and speech ideas on a daily basis. One of the greatest things about Toastmasters is the friends we make, but there's something truly special when you can bring your friends into Toastmasters for the first time.

Summer TLI – A shared experience

By Janette Alexander, ACS, ALS

A few weeks back, I asked Tom Somers, DTM, if I could have the opportunity to make one of the presentations at the first Sandy Scharf Summer TLI session. (Like a true Toastmaster I was bold!) I was lucky that there was a session available and Tom was willing! It was for a repeat of the popular "Creating a Quality Club." The presentation correlated the 'Moments of Truth' with the 'Distinguished Club Program' so officers can understand how these principles can affect club success. I presented tips on how to recognize opportunities to improve your club. These occasions present themselves repeatedly and it is imperative that

you take action when they occur. Most of my home club officers (Solix Toastmasters) are aware of these chances and when you make the most of them you will see your club quality improve. Despite some challenges to making the presentation (I only had 30 minutes to present the two-hour prepared TI workshop), I made it happen. Once again it proved to be a well-attended presentation at the TLI. After all, who doesn't want to create a quality club? Know that each of us can make a difference and can be the one to impact our club's quality.

Janette Alexander, ACS, ALS, serves as Division A Director.

February 22, 1878

September 11, 1965



As bells toll around the world on September 11th for the lives lost during the horrific attack on the World Trade Center, let us not forget our Toastmasters International's founder...

Dr. Ralph C. Smedley

who started our organization to help people overcome their fear of public speaking. What would many of us be able to accomplish without his dream and his foresight to make it come true.

On the 50th anniversary of his death, let us all bow our heads on September 11th and say a silent prayer that more people will take advantage of the peaceful use of words instead of weapons to convey their thoughts.

**Fran Okeson DTM 18, PDG (46)
President ~ Smedley's Speakers Advanced Toastmasters
Assistant Area 64 Director
District 83 High Performance Leadership Coordinator**

Having A Great First Year: An Unofficial Guide for New Clubs

By Susan Chrusciel, CC, ALB with Pam Winter, DTM, PDG

It's a hard process to start a club what with gathering 20 members, filling out many forms, finding a place to meet and so much more. Now that the club has been chartered, you still have many questions for your sponsors and mentor and ask away. Below are some tips for your first year as I learned from my experiences with Bayer, Northern Stars and Open Door.

1. Your club is eligible to compete in the Distinguished Club Program. Any level of Distinguished in the first year is a great accomplishment for a new club. Don't be overwhelmed by the requirements as some are easy to meet.

2. If you're low on funds, focus on meeting district incentives to get supplies from Toastmasters International (TI) – if you don't have a club banner, need a lectern, etc., participate in membership contests, check out the district awards to gain Toastmasters gift certificates, for example:

a. Please make sure that your officers attend training – summer AND winter (depending on when you chartered). District incentive: \$25 for clubs that have all 7 officers trained BOTH periods. There is an extra incentive of \$50 if four officers from your club attend the TLI.

b. Membership goals: 4 new members, 4 more new members can be combined with district membership drives so your club gets extra awards. Don't worry about the names of the membership drives or the time periods just yet – just find the new members and the awards will find you! Additional \$5 per member to your club from the district for each member signed up by September 30.

3. Always have all your members bring both their CC and CL manuals to every meeting and work to complete them. Although other members may have a CC manual that the evaluator can borrow, it's best to bring it so your speech can be recorded and signed by the VP-Education. Usually members do all the work for a CL but then forget to bring their manuals and never get credit.

4. Recognize and celebrate your members' accomplishments in a timely manner – particularly Ice Breakers! TI has ribbons for Ice Breakers that can

be given out by your President and VPE. I've also seen clubs give out Icebreaker candies to members after their Ice Breaker. Also recognize half CCs and half CLs in addition to completing CCs and CLs as a great motivator.

5. Keep track of where your members are towards their educational achievements, if you have some members getting close to awards, have a speakout – a meeting of nothing but speeches. TI sells a wall chart to track progress.

6. As a new club you can still compete! – No minimum number of speeches for new clubs in their first year for the International Speech Contest.

7. Take the opportunity to visit other clubs and see how they operate. The District rewards you with a Friendly Neighbor banner ribbon if three of your members take part in a neighboring club's meeting. You can also capture the Traveling Gavel when visiting a club that has it.

8. Attend the District Conference – not only do you learn a lot about Toastmasters, enhance your development and have a great chance to network, but the District will also give \$40 to a club that has three first-time conference attendees and \$25 for five members attending.

9. Remember to have fun! Have theme meetings and host parties. If your meetings are enjoyable and provide people what they're looking for they'll join, complete educational awards and your club will be a success.

For more info: District 83 Incentives 2015-2016

<http://toastmasters83.org/current-events/district-incentives-and-awards-2015-2016.html>

District 83 Distinguished Clubs 2014-2015

Club	Club Name	Status	Club	Club Name	Status
1345063	Washington Park Toastmasters	P	2655	Cosmopolitan Toastmasters Club	S
8011	No Limits Toastmasters	P	3260	Murray Hill Speakers Club	S
681602	Open Door Club	P	802205	ETHI-Comm Club	S
1077104	GSK's Speakeasy	P	1689	Hillsborough Toastmasters Club	S
9922	Bayer Toastmasters Club	P	728513	Hunterdon Speak Easy Club	S
1036544	First of Sussex Toastmasters	P	6522	Freehold Phrasers Club	S
966830	CARPE DIEM	P	9582	Red Bank Toastmasters Club	S
4722	Midtown Toastmasters Club	P	739438	Jim Friend Toastmasters	S
6608	Speech Meisters Club	P	7328	IEEE Live Wires Club	S
1535632	Henkel Toastmasters	P	3938656	DP&C Toastmasters	S
3972683	Dialogue Party Toastmasters Club*	P	8075	Opportunity Seeking BMS Club	S
1103	Somerville Toastmasters	P	3325285	Brunswick Advanced	S
1481011	Clinton Toastmasters	P	5169	Speak-UPS Toastmasters	S
2634	AT&T Middletown Club	P	977634	Pearls of Expression	S
6847	Art Of Speaking	P	3181	Valley Toastmasters	S
8628	Munich Re Toastmasters Club	P	9828	Conquerors Club	S
1146892	Speakers of the House	P	1285272	New Heights Toastmasters	S
4646	Brunswick Toastmasters Club	P	5272	Gateway 2 Toastmasters Club	D
1401391	Old Bridge Toastmasters	P	695795	Dining To Speak	D
2099	Wayne Toastmasters	P	4923	Solix Toastmasters	D
2639	Ridgewood Toastmasters Club	P	989866	Madison Toastmasters At Pfizer	D
4229	Fairleigh Early Birds Toastmasters Club	P	2371	Novartis-East Hanover Club	D
660313	Speak and Lead Toastmasters Club	P	3540	Morristown Toastmasters	D
1781	Summit Toastmasters	P	6511	BASF Toastmasters Club	D
1076360	Merck Achievers Toastmasters Club	P	344	AT&T Bedminster Club	D
260	Merck Club	P	1501154	Oracle NJ Speaks	D
3187	TM of Westfield Club	P	3051875	The Toast of RMS	D
7733	Jersey Toastmasters Club	P	7478	Shore Speakers Toastmasters Club	D
6445	Union City Club	P	1259943	TOYMASTERS	D
1503	Blue Expressions Club	S	3041	Park Toastmasters Club	D
46	Diamonds In The Rough Club	S	5806	BD Speaks Club	D
2567	Essex Toastmasters	S	1506768	Nyack Toastmasters	D
8143	Storytelling Club	S	5940	BMW NA Toastmasters Club	D
3547	Picatinny Club	S	813995	K-Toast Club	D
1084025	Realtalk Toastmasters	S	927494	Germinators Toastmasters Club	D
5163	Power Talkers Club	S	2581	Bergen Toastmasters	D
693785	Mars Chocolate Sweet Talkers	S	7487	Nutley Club	D
787697	Warren (Citi) Toastmasters	S	1455543	Good Souls Toastmasters	D
1358967	Northern Stars Advanced Club	S	6101	Mile Square Toastmasters	D
			692522	Toastmasters en EspaÑol Club	D

* Charter Date 7/14/14