

VOICES



Are You Having Fun Yet?

Maurice Taitt, DTM - District 25 Governor



Hopefully, you are all having a good time attentive participating in the various Area Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contests. Don't forget, the area winners advance to the Division Contests in November.

Voices is the official publication of District 25, serving Toastmasters throughout North Central Texas.

This is a good time to examine your progress towards reaching your education and leadership goals in 2007-2008. Have you pushed yourself far enough? Have you aimed high enough? You may be closer to a higher education or leadership goal than you think.

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Take your Competent Leader manual and your speech manual whenever you go to a club meeting, even if you are not scheduled to speak because a speaking opportunity may arise at short notice. Why not expand your Toastmasters experience by visiting another nearby club? You'll definitely learn a few things by visiting, doing a speech and receiving an evaluation from someone in another club.

Especially for new Toastmasters and those who have never attended a district conference, this is an excellent time to make plans to attend our Fall 2007 District Conference on November 30 and December 1, 2007. We'll have exciting keynote speakers and, for the first time at a district conference, we'll have Club Officer Training taught by past district governors from outside and inside our district. Since this is another way in which you can enhance your Toastmasters experience, I definitely look forward to seeing you there.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

WINTER DATES ANNOUNCED

Online pre-registration available
November 1, 2007

www.d25toastmasters.org/tls

December 1 - DFW Airport Marriott South, Ft. Worth - 8:15am
December 8 - Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth - 8:30am
January 18 - IBM, Coppell - 6:30pm
January 19 - IBM, Coppell - 8:30am
February 9 - Baylor University, Waco - 8:30am



Strategies to Gain and Retain Members

David McCallister, DTM - Lt. Governor Marketing 2007-2008

Great Meetings: A dynamic meeting is a club's best sales tool. Great meetings don't just happen; they require careful planning and an agenda. [If you do nothing else, do this.](#)

Meeting Location: Confirm if your meeting place is big enough, has good parking, easy access, low noise and other amenities. [Quality location = pride in club.](#)

Attitude: Everyone's responsibility. Members will gain more benefits from an active, healthy club. [Member understanding and buy-in.](#)

Plan for Visitors: Be prepared before they visit. Have new member kits handy; assign a mentor right away, if they join; schedule them for roles; and recognize guests and ask for their comments. [Have a plan and consistently implement it.](#)

Invite Guests: For special occasions: speech contests, club fund-raisers, etc. [People want to be asked – ask them.](#)

Short Pitch: Have a one to two minute verbal pitch/testimony that you can give someone on how Toastmasters has benefited you. [Make it personal.](#)

Fliers: See Toastmasters catalog for a great selection or make your own. [Post them.](#)

Club Newsletters: Circulate to all club members, guests, and prospective members – it can be in print, electronic, one page or multiple, but simpler is better. [Hit the highlights and showcase your members' successes and membership benefits.](#)

Club Web site: Link to the District and International Web sites. [Relevancy and current, accurate information.](#)

Signs: Order "Toastmasters Meets Here" signs. [Post them.](#)

Newspaper Notices: Place club information in calendars of events. [Free!](#)

Local Access TV: Have community happenings notices. [Also free!](#)

Open Houses: Host a club open house and invite guests. [Demonstrate results of Toastmasters program.](#)

Community Involvement: Volunteer to evaluate or coach city hall meetings or to judge local high school/college speech contests; staff a Toastmasters information booth at a community festival; or host an open house for local business leaders. [Exposure to Toastmasters.](#)

Membership Contests: Toastmasters has several pre-developed programs, or create your own. Have incentives and create friendly competition. [Make it fun.](#)

Club Raider Returns!

The objective of a Banner Raid is to provide a FUN experience for both clubs involved. Visiting club members often take many great ideas back to their home clubs, which in turn promotes healthy, strong, creative Toastmasters clubs throughout our district.

The raiding club brings five or more members to the meeting, and the target club's banner will be forfeited to the raiders. The target club may retrieve their banner by going through the same process. If they bring ten club members to retrieve their banner, they can also steal the other club's banner! **Ends June 30, 2008.**



District 25 Fall Conference Banner Parade - Friday November 30, 2007

Bring Your Club Banner to the Conference. This is Your Chance to Shine — to Show off Your Club!

Let us know you are there. The Banner Parade opens the Fall Conference on Friday evening. It's an impressive sight — like the opening day on the Olympics with all the flags. It is your time to be proud and strut your stuff — we need every club there to be in the Banner Parade — so come on out and feel a part of our history by being at this conference and being in the Banner Parade!

Wave your banner and show your pride as you march in with your club banner! Join in our Banner Parade, which starts our Opening Ceremonies.

Then listen and be inspired by our Friday Keynote Speaker. This event will get you off to an energizing start for the rest of the conference!

Remember all banners get hung up in the main room after the Parade so we get to look at them throughout the Conference and get inspiration from the older clubs with all the beautiful ribbons for accomplishments over the years.

Tip: get someone who is coming to the conference to remember to take the banner at the last meeting before the conference, then after the conference pick it up.



*Clubs participating in the Banner Parade will receive a special ribbon to attach to your club banner. Clubs will receive the ribbon at the Conference.

For more information and to Register your club online visit
www.d25toastmasters.org/bannerparade
or contact District 25 Sergeant at Arms, Mary Feltman, DTM
email: aryfeltman@d25toastmasters.org

Don't have a club banner?

Contact District 25 Lt. Governor Marketing David McCallister, DTM
to find out how your club can earn a free banner!
email: davidmccallister@d25toastmasters.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Voting In Members

The Toastmasters club is a private association, and club membership is by invitation. As provided in the club constitution, a prospective member, in order to become a member, must be elected to membership of at least a majority of active members present and voting. As a chartered club of Toastmasters International, we must vote in members to retain our charter. This is not an option; every chartered club must vote in its members.



Absolutely Awesome Division A: On the Road to Excellence!

Diana Patton, ACB/ALB - Division A Governor

Our district governor's theme this year is "Committed to Excellence". Each area governor's contest in Division A has definitely lived up to that goal in their planning and execution. Each and every contest was special not only for the contestants but the guests as well. EXCELLENT job Sunni, Ruby, Larry, Mark and Erik! (Check out the contact information for Area Governors <http://d25toastmasters.org/contact.htm>).

I know that each area governor appreciated the support from their clubs. Thanks to each club that sent contestants, helpers, brought refreshments, handled agenda design, sent nominations for outstanding officers, and all the other tasks that make an excellent contest.

Ted Engstrom says, "Excellence demands that you be better than yourself." As Toastmasters, we have started that journey to excellence just by the fact that we are all members of an organization that builds communication and leadership skills.

Entertain these enduring excellence entities to enter the ecstasy of excellence:

1. Consider your commitment. Do everything in your life as well as it can be done.
2. Pay the price: practice, patience and persistence. (Dr. Stephen Covey)
3. Exceed expectations.
4. Never settle for good enough.

I would invite each one of you to the District 25 Fall 2007 Conference where the theme is "Destination: Excellence". It is one more step on the road the excellence. I hope to see lots of old friends and make new ones during the conference. Dates of conference are Friday evening, November 30, and all day Saturday, December 1, 2007. Please check out lots of details at <http://d25toastmasters.org/fallconference> . Register now!

Other important dates for Division A is the Division Contest which will be held Saturday, November 3, 2007, at Stacy Furniture in Grapevine. Full details http://d25toastmasters.org/education/speech_contests.htm .

"The compulsion to excellence assures excitement!" (Robert Schuller)



The Spirit of Champions

Linda K. Morrison, ACS/CL - Division C Governor 2007-2008

Contest season is upon us and I have seen a change happening in my area governors. They are becoming champions in the pure sense of the word. I have seen it in my Area 31 Governor Mike Shaw who came back from Japan mid-September and set his focus on his contest scheduled for September 29. He overcame his doubts and insecurity about having a contest and he did it. I saw it in my Area 33 Governor Jon Perry who was ready to give up being area governor because he thought it just wasn't fun anymore. I saw him draw on his inner strength as well as using the teamwork of other people in Toastmasters to have a combined contest with my Area 32 Governor Bill Kincaid who was thriving under the pressure of a small area of three clubs.

This week I saw it in my Area 35 Governor Conda Ross who was overwhelmed with being a youth minister and trying to be area governor as well. I've seen her organize a contest in a week's time despite people saying it cannot be done.

Finally but not least, I saw it in my Area 34 Governor Tammy Bailey who is unstoppable. She has visited all her clubs, had all area clubs turn in their proxies, all her area clubs reach their DCP of having four or more officers trained as well as being president of her home club and a mentor of brand new club in her area.

Yes, Division C is a division of champions. That is what Toastmasters does. It helps individuals find their inner strengths and develop them so they can become outstanding speakers and leaders.

If you have been considering becoming a district officer next term, don't let fear or insecurity stop you. You will be amazed at what you can achieve and how far up you can go. Come to the Open House on Sat., Oct. 27, from 1-3 p.m. at Stacy's Furniture in Grapevine. Meet other people that have been there and ask questions on what you can do.



Division B Believes in Building Better Communicators and Leaders

Diana Pittman, ATMB/CL— Division B Governor 2007-2008

What are you doing Thursday, Friday, or Saturday in October? Attend an area contest to witness imaginative stories and speeches, which sparks an interest in many to participate in a future contest! Bring your entire club to an area contest! Exposure to these speech performances in larger venues is a valuable experience for the speaker when utilized as learning tools for speaker growth and development. I hope to see you there!

How do you describe your club officers? Can you write out that information? Why? Because we want to hear it, and enter it into the outstanding officer nominations. If you did this last term then you are ready to copy and paste that information into the online submission form created for member ease. The **officer term January – June 30, 2007** is accepting nominations until the Nov. 12 deadline. Show your appreciation and enter your favorites early and often! You can nominate yourself, too.

Why do club officers need to be trained? Effective training for club officers is one critical component of the District. Without properly trained officers, clubs cannot meet members' needs or introduce the benefits of Toastmasters to others. District 25 provides enjoyable and rewarding training experiences at Toastmaster Leadership Summits, TLS, offered twice each officer term. Mark the dates today!

Club Officer Training is one of the easiest DCP goals, schedule to complete DCP Goal #9 at the upcoming TLS / Toastmaster Leadership Summit! <http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/OfficerResources/ClubOfficerResources/DCP/DCP.aspx>

Division B Officer Training Results...

All clubs but two met the minimum officers trained and some achieved the Super 7 Award as well! Division B had the highest—percentage of officers trained! Division B also had the highest percentage of clubs with all seven officers trained earning the prestigious Super 7 Award! Way to go Division B!

Trained and Active Members are the Key to Successful Toastmaster Clubs

Enhance your contribution and enjoyment of Toastmasters and wakeup the enthusiasm and appreciation you had when you realized what Toastmasters could do for you. Expect and contribute to invigorating and productive times, and extend a positive and high-level of energy towards your goals. Thank you for all you do to help make Toastmasters a more enjoyable and productive place for all of us!



Training Again?

Ana Garza, ACS/ALB - Division E Governor 2007-2008

“Why should I go to training? I have been an officer for several terms. I went to training last year. I have been re-elected to the same office, why should I attend training?”

When I hear these comments it reminds me of the time when my son started school. He was excited the first week. After that, he complained, “But I already went to school yesterday, why do I have to go back again?” I have the same answer for my fellow Toastmasters that I gave my son. “Take advantage of the opportunity to learn every chance you get. Each day and each lesson is a chance for us to grow.”

Fellow Toastmasters, we have made a commitment to grow and improve. We have made a commitment to our fellow club members. Leaders set the standard that others follow. District officer training sets the tone for our club members that we are committed and will be the best leaders possible.

I am committed to being the best leader for all of you. Let us work together to achieve excellence. District 25 will provide officer training only four times this winter. Please check our website and make plans to attend.



Find a Mistake?

It is our policy to include something for everyone. Since some people like to find errors, we regularly include a few in our publications to meet this need. **Please email: newsletter@d25toastmasters.org**



Dynamic Division D: Too Funny!

D. Kirkland, CTM/CL— Division D Governor 2007-2008

The Tri-Area (41, 42, 43) Fall Speech Contest was a great success. The area governors and volunteers from all three areas worked together to coordinate a well-run contest. Everyone applied good communication and leadership skills as they facilitated the contest. I offer a hearty "Thank you" to all! More leaders and volunteers will be coordinating for the Area 44/45 Fall Speech Contest on the afternoon of Saturday, October 20. That contest will be held at Grace Fellowship Baptist Church, 3801 McCart, in Ft. Worth. Contest briefing will begin at 1 p.m. and the contest will begin at 2 p.m.

Each Area has great contestants emerging in the Humorous Speech Contests. I encourage all contestants to seek additional training in humorous speaking. I suggest the following resources:

- *Got Humor? Comedy Secrets for Professional Presentations* by Darren LaCroix, 2001 World Champion of Public Speaking (CD five in *Speaking Secrets of the Champions*)
- *Make 'em Laugh* - Host: Darren LaCroix - four CDs with eight interviews with humor experts:
 - Bob Seibel: "Get Laughs from Frustration" and Rosemary Verri "How to develop humor awareness"
 - Judy Buch: "Enhance your stories with characterization" and Dick Doherty: "How to be intimate with an audience"
 - Katie Grady: "Learn the joke writing process" and Don Gavin: "Get laughs from observations!"
 - Izzy Gesell: "The power of improv" and Kevin Knox: "You have to believe it's funny"
- <http://www.earnestspeakers.com/humorous-speech.html>
- <http://marketing.about.com/od/publicrelation1/a/speechhumor.htm>

There are some great evaluators emerging as well. Here are some additional tips for you:

- <http://webuser.bus.umich.edu/Organizations/umbstoastmasters/file/officers/meeting%20printouts/evaluation%20guide%20short.PDF>
- http://www.geocities.com/fairoakstoastmasters/tips_evaluation.htm
<http://ezinearticles.com/?Public-Speaking:-Tips-for-Giving-Effective-Speech-Evaluations&id=447305>

Good luck to all the contestants. See you on November 10, 2007 at the Division D Fall Speech Contest!



Marketing Workshop

Learn how to attract, recruit, and retain members for your club. Also leave with valuable materials, handouts, and resources to help build and sustain your club membership.

Saturday, October 27, 2007

Stacy Furniture - 3rd Floor Community Room
1900 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Texas

Open to all members - **Seating is Limited!**

Attendees are asked to pre-register.

For more information or to register online,
visit www.d25toastmasters.org/marketing/workshop

DEAR GABBY



Dear Gabby,

Why has our club received an official visit by an area governor?

- *Better watch out.*

Dear He knows when you've been bad or good,

In addition to the position of area governor being an opportunity for the member in advanced leadership training, the area governor is a support system for your club. Just like a large corporation, the president cannot see to the training and well being of each individual employee. So managers and supervisors are utilized to oversee groups of employees. Ms. Gabby is not saying that area governors are managers or supervisors over the club and its members; however Toastmasters does provide us with skills we can transfer to the workplace. Area governors are asked to make two official visits to their clubs each year. They are there as a messenger of the District to see if the club is fulfilling the needs of the membership through the Toastmasters program. They are there to answer questions, offer training and support, and inform the clubs about District sponsored training and events. If a club has had a drop in membership, and needs additional help to rebuild, then the area governor can provide this information to the District, and help can be offered. Area governors are the first line of communication from the members to the district governor. This allows the District to offer support and programs that are beneficial to the needs of the members. Which in turn allows Toastmasters International to better serve the members.

Ms. Gabby thanks all for their submissions. Keep sending those questions and comments, and remember, if you can't see the bright side of life, polish the dull side. Do you have a question about a meeting role, speech content or topic choice? Need ideas on attracting new members to your club? Are you contemplating starting your leadership track? If so, Gabby is here to help! Dear Gabby will provide down to earth-practical answers to all Toastmaster related questions. Like a good neighbor, disinterested friend, or "a second mother" she calls it as she sees it. All questions submitted will be answered. Check monthly to see if your questions and answers will be published in the District Newsletter.

Email your questions to deargabby@d25toastmasters.org.

You Can't Talk About That!

Members often tell us that other Toastmasters have told them that speeches concerning politics, religion and sex are forbidden by Toastmasters International because "such controversial subjects are not appropriate." This is not true. Toastmasters International does not prohibit any speech topic, content or language.

Toastmasters International recognizes club members may learn much about the world around them from listening to others' speeches on a variety of subjects. This variety can add interest to club meetings and stimulate thoughts and ideas. For these reasons, Toastmasters International does not place restrictions on topics, content, or language of any speeches. It also recognizes that a club is a diverse group of people and recommends members be sensitive to this diversity and use good taste and responsibility when selecting speech topics, content, and language. While Toastmasters International has no restrictions, a club may guide its members on how to observe good taste and sensitivity in the context of that particular club.

Some Helpful Guidelines for Submitting Articles for Voices:

- It's usually best to use the inverted pyramid style. Write the material from most significant to least significant so the editor (or the reader) can cut it off at any point (or any time) and know that the most important part has been covered.
- Try to stay under 500 words (but don't worry about it).
- If possible, include pictures, along with information about who is in the picture and what is going on.
- If formatting is important, use Word, but plain email is fine too.
- If there are more than a couple of pictures, compress them and attach the compressed file.

Now get those articles in! **Deadline for submittals is the 25th of the month.** All articles are subject to editing.



Award Nominations - An Award Committee Member's Perspective

David Watkins, DTM - 2003-2004 Awards Committee Member

Have you ever wondered why someone you nominated, who has done an absolutely great job in his or her position, didn't win? Did you feel that the actual winner really didn't work as hard as you thought your nominee did? So what happened?!? It may be that your candidate's supporting nomination(s) didn't provide enough data to support your candidate. When the awards committee reviews the nominations, all we can consider is the actual nomination. Even if we personally know that the person nominated was the best "<fill in the blank> of the Year" ever, if the nomination form doesn't indicate that, there isn't much we can do. In selecting one person over another, we can't let our personal bias enter into the selection process - we make our selections based only upon the nominations provided. For example, consider the following nomination (which is similar to what we've seen), "David Watkins has inspired me to be the best Toastmaster ever! That's why I nominate him as Toastmaster of the Year". This is a nice nomination and of course 100 percent true. But what does that tell the awards committee? Not much. Sure, everyone knows that David is a great inspiration, that hundreds of Toastmasters' lives are so much richer having known him. But the nomination doesn't describe what he has done to deserve Toastmaster of the Year.

A nomination with such little detail will allow the committee to very quickly go to the next, more detailed nomination form-meaning your candidate will probably be passed over. Compare the above nomination with the example below. Which nomination allows the Awards Committee to make a better selection?

David Watkins has inspired me to be the best Toastmaster ever. Therefore, I am nominating him as Toastmaster of the Year. Just some of his [fictional] accomplishments are:

- * Acted as chief judge at 11 area contests, four division contests, and the District Humorous Speech Contest,
- * Chaired the very successful spring and fall conferences. Even found a hotel willing to pay us to have the conference there,
- * Obtained corporate sponsorship of over \$25,000,
- * Provided awesome training sessions at every TLI and division-level training,
- * Personally invited 145 people as guests in a three month period, with all of them joining,
- * Personally worked five club leads, helped to charter three clubs all by himself,
- * Provided dozens of speeches to civic and other organizations extolling the virtues of being a Toastmaster member,
- * Spoke at both the Republican and Democratic national conventions, convincing them to include "A Toastmaster in every Household" in their platforms,
- * Completed his high performance leadership project by bringing peace to the Middle East,
- * and so forth.

This nomination provides a very clear picture of what David has done over the past year and why he should be considered as Toastmaster of the Year. Imagine how easy it would be to compare this type of nomination to the "David's the greatest" nomination. When you are completing your nomination form, please be very specific on what your nominee has done to deserve the award. The more detailed the accomplishments, the better chance your candidate will have of winning. If you are nominating a club officer for an award, be sure to include what he or she has done "above and beyond" their normal officer duties (e.g., "scheduling the meeting duties three weeks into the future" is a normal expectation of the VP of Education, not an "above and beyond" effort. "Coordinating an external speaking event where 40 non-Toastmasters attended and many joined the club" would be above and beyond - personal opinion). Filling out an award nomination takes a bit of work, but if your nominee has done a lot of work to deserve the award, would it not be a good idea to spend a few extra minutes outlining what your nominee has done to deserve the award? The next round of officer nominations for the January 1 to June 30 period will be starting soon. Good luck with your nominations.

Area 14 Contest

John P. King - FAA Toastmasters

The District 25 Area 14 Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest was a tremendous success due to the fact that every club in the District had a representative competing in the contest. Contest chair was Nancy Ramos and Toastmaster was Tom Rhodes

Judy Perez gave a very heartfelt and original speech that was a “Toast to her two newborn nieces”. What was amazing was to hear how many evaluators say she should video tape that speech for the parents and for her nieces. The contestants in the Evaluation Speech Contest were Bill Thomson, Kevin Johnson, Ed King, Daniel Baumgartner and Ben Pylant. The awards in the evaluation portion went to Ed King who placed first, Kevin Johnson finished second, and Bill Thomson finished third. The humorous speech contest showed we have a depth of witty and humorous toastmasters. Competing were David Watkins, Rucha Jani, Chris Ballenger, John King, and Robert Davis. The awards in the Humorous Speech Contest portion went to David Watkins who placed first, Rucha Jani finished second, and Chris Ballenger finished third. Congratulations to all for yet another excellent learning experience from Toastmasters International.



Every Club Can Be Distinguished

Randy Terrell, DTM - EDS Trinity Toastmasters

In school, if you got 50% on an exam, what grade did you receive? A failing grade right? If you got 70% what grade did you get? Average right? Well, the beauty of Toastmasters is this: if your club gets 50% of the expected annual goals, your club is considered Distinguished; if your club gets 70%, your club is considered Select Distinguished; and with 90%, your club is the elite President's Distinguished.

Many clubs, and especially club members, question why it is important to be distinguished. There are a couple of reasons. **One**, being distinguished means your club is delivering the Toastmaster program. Having members achieve speaking goals, leadership goals, getting new members, and maintaining their administrative responsibilities, are critical to a club's success. That is all the 10 DCP goals are a measure of a club's commitment to the Toastmasters educational and leadership program. **Two**, being distinguished means your club has accepted the Toastmasters program and is using it productively.

As for getting distinguished, it is a breeze. Four dedicated officers can distinguish a club by themselves. This is how:

If four dedicated officers go to training in the Summer and Winter – that's one goal.

If one dedicated officer gets the membership list and dues in on time – that's another goal.

If two dedicated officers get their CC – that's the third goal.

If those same two officers who earned their CC also earn their CL or OCL – that's goals number four and five

This is all it takes to achieve distinguished. The biggest question for many clubs is, “*Have we made our membership threshold of charter 20 or a net gain of five to qualify for distinguished status?*” Again, this is where the four dedicated officers come in:

If each of the four dedicated officers brings in one new member – another goal is met.

If each of the four dedicated officers brings in two new members – two goals are met.

With the officers focusing on bringing in new members, Select Distinguished status is close at hand.

It is the right of every Toastmaster member to be a member of a distinguished club. They pay dues for an educational and leadership program, and it is the club's responsibility to focus on that program. If four dedicated officers can achieve Distinguished or Select Distinguished status, imagine what a club of 20 or more focused members will achieve.



Make Your Club Marketing Work

Dodi Foster, DTM - District 25 Public Relations Officer 2007-2008

There are a few key things that every successful marketing campaign has in common. You don't have to crack some mysterious code or be the beneficiary of rare luck. You merely have to apply sound, proven strategies.

Look at the big picture. A successful marketing campaign is just that. A campaign. Not just one ad or one brochure. Start with a plan and then use an arsenal of marketing materials. Toastmasters International provides high quality marketing materials for free. Every time you place a supply order with International, they send marketing materials free with the order. Marketing material is downloadable from the International member's website, and from the District 25 Web site. Use all of the material for your campaign, including a club Web site.

Be consistent with your message. The reality is that it takes time for a marketing campaign to take root and grow. Develop a plan for the whole year and follow it. Put out a variety of marketing material. If you place the Toastmasters magazine at your hairdressers or barber shop every month, also try placing brochures there too. If you are placing a poster on a bulletin board, replace it with a new and different one every month.

Is this hard to do? The answer is yes and no. The process is not really hard. The marketing materials have already been created for you, and the steps are clear. The hard part is committing the time and effort and waiting for results. If you are consistent and use a variety of marketing materials, then your chances of success increase substantially.



TOASTMASTERS IN THE PARK

Rescheduled for Spring/Summer 2008

Fort Worth Trinity Park

Ready to step out of your comfort zone and speak before a non Toastmasters audience?

This public relations event for District 25 needs you! We will showcase the humorous speaking talents from all over District 25 in an event advertised to the general public. This is your opportunity to help us spread the word to the community about the benefits of membership in Toastmasters.

There are 10 speaking slots open for five to seven minute humorous speeches. To sign up please send an email to dodifoster@d25toastmasters.org. If more than 10 members sign up, speakers will be selected by committee and final slate of speakers will be determined in late winter.

We also need volunteers to serve on the committee and help the day of the event.

Contact Dodi Foster, DTM via email dodifoster@d25toastmasters.org.



FIVE STAR CLUB

Pay semi-annual club dues on time during both periods (by Oct 10, 2007 and Apr 10, 2008)
Add four new members and four more new members – PLUS End the year with 20 or net five members. Get a ribbon for your club banner and more! **Ends June 30, 2008.**

2008-2009 District 25 Leadership Open House October 27, 2007

Great Leadership Opportunities are ripe for the Picking



If you are interested in serving in District Leadership during the 2008-2009 Toastmaster year and working towards completing your Advanced Leader Silver, come to the Open House on Saturday October 27, 2007 from 1 - 3p.m.

Refreshments will be provided.
**(for those who RSVP)*

Stacy Furniture - 3rd Floor Community Room
1900 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Texas

for more information and to RSVP online visit
www.d25toastmasters.org/leadership
or contact District 25 Governor, Maurice Taitt, DTM
at 972-742-1111 or mauricetaitt@d25toastmasters.org

OCTOBER CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

- 706449 Burleson Toastmasters
- 3084 Christian Speakers
- 7160 Civic Orators
- 6402 Do-Gooder Hill
- 2564 Energizers Toastmasters
- 6102 FAA Toastmasters
- 4370 Flagship Speakers
- 5297 Golden Triangle
- 9916 LM AeroSpeakers
- 1286 Lonestar Toastmasters
- 3178 Longhorn Toastmasters
- 8451 Radioshack
- 676852 Technically Speaking
- 727543 Toastvesters Toastmasters



Education Completions for September 2007

Congratulations to our fellow Competent Communicators

Club	Division	Area	Award	Date	Member	
4354	A	15	CC	9/27/2007	Me, Cathy	AllianceTexas Toastmasters
692498	D	41	CC	9/19/2007	Jaworski, Anna M.	Texas Stars
6102	A	14	CC	9/14/2007	Salter, Darrall Leon	FAA Toastmasters
4567	B	25	CC	9/11/2007	Rodriguez, Annette	VHA Toastmasters
5537	F	63	CC	9/7/2007	Swann, James E.	Airport Toastmaster
8055	B	25	CC	9/30/2007	Ray, Zyrone D.	Las Colinas Communicators

Congratulations to our fellow Advanced Communicators

Club	Division	Area	Award	Date	Member	
3055	E	51	ACB	9/27/2007	Clark, Ronald B.	Denton Toastmasters
7502	B	23	ACB	9/24/2007	Lindberg, David A.	Successful Speakers
3536	F	62	ACB	9/18/2007	Harris, Shawneequa M.	Young Street Yappers
1415	B	21	ACG	9/24/2007	Taitt, Maurice Eugene	Plymouth Park

Congratulations to our fellow Competent Leaders

Club	Division	Area	Award	Date	Member	
5496	A	11	CL	9/17/2007	Frias, Lydia R.	Cowtown Toastmasters
5590	D	41	CL	9/7/2007	Leeth, Marina Nina	Big T Toastmasters
5496	A	11	OCL	9/11/2007	McCallister, David E.	Cowtown Toastmasters
5496	A	11	CL	9/17/2007	McCallister, David E.	Cowtown Toastmasters
8507	E	55	CL	9/23/2007	McKinney, Sandra K	House Speakers Toastmasters
4987	A	15	OCL	9/25/2007	Roth, David W.	Southlake
8055	B	25	OCL	9/20/2007	Samuelson, Gary M.	Las Colinas Communicators
633	E	54	CL	9/19/2007	Upton, Kathy	Speak With Success
808279	A	11	OCL	9/25/2007	White, Mark C.	ATD Toastmasters

Congratulations to our fellow Distinguished Toastmasters

Club	Division	Area	Award	Date	Member	
1415	B	21	DTM	9/24/2007	Taitt, Maurice Eugene	Plymouth Park



BEST CLUB NEWSLETTER CONTEST (July 1 – November 15, 2007)

Does your club have the best club newsletter ever written? Then you need to receive recognition for it! Save your best three issues to submit by November 15, 2007. Your club will receive recognition at the District 25 Fall Conference, and a \$30.00 gift certificate to use at the District Store!

BEST CLUB WEBSITE CONTEST (July 1 – November 15, 2007)

Register your club website with the district public relations officer by November 15, 2007. Send club name and URL. Your club will receive recognition at the District 25 Fall Conference, and a \$30.00 gift certificate to use at the District Store!



District 25 Calendar of Events

October 2007

- 1-31 Hold Area and Division Council Meetings
- 1-20 Area Speech Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contests
- 27 District Executive Committee Meeting (Grapevine, TX)
District Marketing Workshop 12pm-1pm (Grapevine, TX)
District Leadership Open House 1pm (Grapevine, TX)
- 31 Last day for Area Visits

November 2007

- 1-30 Hold Area and Division Council Meetings
- 2 **Division F** Speech Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest
- 3 **Division E** Speech Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest
- Division A** Speech Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest
- 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 9 **Division B** Speech Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest
- 10 **Division C** Speech Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest
- Division D** Speech Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest
- 12 District Steering Committee Meeting
Deadline for submitting Outstanding Officer Nominations to District Awards Chair: ernestinapinones@d25toastmasters.org
- 22 Thanksgiving Day
- 30 Last day to submit Area Visit Report ONLINE for Distinguished Area Credit
Fall Conference – DFW Marriott South – Fort Worth, Texas

December 2007

- 1 Fall Conference – DFW Marriott South – Fort Worth, Texas
- 1-31 Hold Area and Division Council Meetings
- 8 **Toastmasters Leadership Summit – Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth, TX**
- 10 District Steering Committee Meeting
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 Last day to submit Club Officer List ONLINE for DCP Credit!

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Voices is published monthly and is available to the members of District 25 Toastmasters and clubs. Subscription available for one year at the price of \$36 for those wishing to receive their newsletter delivered via postal mail. Back issues are available online at www.d25toastmasters.org/newsletter.

The Mission of Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International is the leading movement devoted to making effective oral communication a worldwide reality. Through its member clubs, Toastmasters International helps men and women learn the arts of speaking, listening and thinking—vital skills that promote self-actualization, enhance leadership potential, foster human understanding, and contribute to the betterment of mankind.

It is basic to this mission that Toastmasters International continually expand its worldwide network of clubs, thereby offering ever-greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from its programs.

Toastmasters International Vision

Toastmasters International empowers people to achieve their full potential and realize their dreams. Through our member clubs, people throughout the world can improve their communication and leadership skills, and find the courage to change.

The Mission of the District

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

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

The Mission of the Club

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

Welcome to Toastmasters! New Members from September 2007

Shelley Abrahams	AAFCU Flying Toasters	Monty Shipp	Denton Toastmasters
ILEANA MANSFIELD	AAFCU Flying Toasters	Arleen Stubblefield	Eye Can Toastmasters
Karen Scarborough	AAFCU Flying Toasters	Sarfaraz Nazir	Flagship Speakers Toastmasters
Damaris Thorn	Afterburners	Steve Liptak	Keller Communicators
Martin Lanzas	Airport Toastmaster	Howard Holmes	Lakeside
Dexter Grisby	Arlington Nooners Toastmasters	Gary Bergsma	Longhorn Toastmasters
Rajeev Agrawal	BNSF Expressed Toastmasters	Delario Bolton	Longhorn Toastmasters
Morry Anderson	BNSF Expressed Toastmasters	Stephen Wheeler	Longhorn Toastmasters
Pamela Anderson	Burleson Toastmasters	Tamane Braly	Marine Creek Toastmasters
Robert Lewis	Burleson Toastmasters	Misty Emery	Marine Creek Toastmasters
Melissa Rawlins	Burleson Toastmasters	Zachary Frohlich	Marine Creek Toastmasters
Kara Cox	Citi Mustangs	Aisha Malone	Marine Creek Toastmasters
Freda Bowers	Civic Orators Toastmasters	Venezia McCain Lopez	Marine Creek Toastmasters
Laveda Brown	Civic Orators Toastmasters	Joshua Rollins	Marine Creek Toastmasters
Gale Edwards	Civic Orators Toastmasters	Melissa Timko	Marine Creek Toastmasters
Christopher King	Civic Orators Toastmasters	Gloria Aguilar	North TX
Reponsa King	Civic Orators Toastmasters	Gennero Amador	Samaritan Toastmasters
Aida Scott	Civic Orators Toastmasters	Dexter Johnson	Samaritan Toastmasters
Linda Weaver	Civic Orators Toastmasters	Femi Ogunyem	Shared Communicators
Jan Chaowichitra	Denton Toastmasters	Ronald Buch	TCU Toastmasters
Greg Cross	Denton Toastmasters	Daniel Merkel	TCU Toastmasters
Nancy Gibson	Denton Toastmasters	Shilpi Subramanian	TCU Toastmasters
Udaya Kasaju	Denton Toastmasters	B J Denton	Texas Wesleyan Spellbinders
James McKay	Denton Toastmasters	Valarie Stewart	Toastmasters Anonymous
Mirna Robles	Denton Toastmasters	Lynette Gough	Top Notch Toastmasters - TNT
Gary Samuelson	Denton Toastmasters	Bonne Stroman	Weatherford
Rhealyn Samuelson	Denton Toastmasters		

Calling All Coaches

District 25 is looking for special people to serve as a club coaches. Each coach is assigned to a club that have a current membership of 12 or fewer, and have voted in favor of having a club coach appointed. Club coaches work with their appointed clubs to coach them to distinguished status.

If a club coach leads and restores the club to distinguished status within the coaching term, or a second coaching term, Toastmasters International recognizes the accomplishment as a successful coaching term. A successful coaching term can go towards the successful completion of one of the requirements for the ALS designation. A coaching term goes from the date that the club coach is appointed until June 30th. A second coaching term goes from July 1 (the next day after the end of the coaching term) until June 30 of the following year.

Use the Club Coaching Program to help reach your aspirations for Advanced Leader Silver (ALS) designation. Immerse yourself in an new environment that will allow you to develop and improve your coaching and leadership skills. And finally revel in your successful efforts to coach others to success.

If you are interested in serving as a club coach, visit www.d25toastmasters.org/marketing/clubcoach.

Welcome New Clubs to District 25 Toastmasters!

Ryder TMC Toastmasters

Club 1082330 - Division E - Area 51
Ryder Logistics
13599 Park Vista Blvd
Fort Worth, Texas 76177
Mondays @ 5pm
Membership open only to employees

Paul Boothe
Oscar Castillo
Kesa.G. Clingman
Mike Dupre
Amanda Gering
Brendan Glaccum
Amber Goude
Shirley Heald
Scott Hoenig
Sara Holder
Nikolaus Krueger
Jenni McCullars
Jonathon McCutcheon
Mark Metcalf
Loretta Morgan
Daniel Nash
Linda Santana
Sameh Shawroukh
Jason Taliaferro
Donnetta Toston-Hill
Lisa Vela
Kevin West
LeighAnne Wiebe
Mark Wiebe
Michelle Williams
Mang Wu

Texas Toasters

Club 1082229 - Division E - Area 55
Diebold
1221 S. Beltline Road, Suite 700
Coppell, Texas 75019
Wednesdays @ 5pm
Membership open only to employees

Wanda Acord
Eva Arcia-Reyes
Tracy Bolles
Kelton Cole
Melanie Cormier
Tabetha Eudaily
Evan Evans
Julia Green
Angela Justiss
Joseph Kalinowski
Bradley Lorey
Julie Mantia
LaTeene Martin
Ronda Mayerchak
Valerie McKamie
Penelope McKinney
Honey Pardue
Anissa Richardson
Merritt Richardson
Arnease Robinson
Chante Williams

Going Postal

Club 1068215 - Division E - Area 53
U.S. Postal Service—Processing Ctr.
951 W. Bethel Road
Coppell, Texas 75099
Tuesdays @ 12pm
Membership open only to employees

Marilyn Barnes
Edward Berrios
Brenda Bishop
Linda Branch
Richard Cade
Brenda Cothran
Tina DeLeon
Rogenia Demus
Cedric Durant
Deborah Edmunds
Althia Hawthorne
Dean Henson
Barbara Higgins
Patricia Hill
Randy Johnson
Vangie Navarro
Elizabeth Richardson
William Stanmore
Douglas Timberlake
Mae Tutt
Linda Vaughn
Anita Works
Jesus Zambrano

MPSS Toastmasters Club 1

Club 1082726 - Division A - Area 14
Medtronic
4620 North Beach Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76137
Tuesdays @ 12pm
Membership open only to employees

Jennifer Cryer
John Davis
Trinity Davis
Daniel Denney
Hashem Diab
Jennifer Dodd
Shelia Johnson
Lisando Lopez
Melanie Mendoza
Faiz Mohammad
Maria Mojica
Julie Movzakis
Andy Nguyen
Naren Patel
Dawn Saye
Mitchell Sherry
Andy Singer
Ronald Smith
Eligio Solis
Constantine Sparto
Rebecca Stanley
Sherry Vinson
Brad Wheatley

MPSS Toastmasters Club 2

Club 1082792 - Division A - Area 15
Medtronic
4620 North Beach Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76137
Thursdays @ 12pm
Membership open only to employees

Hung Bach
Milton Barnes
Jesus Cisneros
Denise Crain
Michael Finley
David Frank
Chris Fussell
Bret Hauser
R. Hudson
Gabriel Johnston
Kimberly Kloberdanz
Ruby Knisley
David Leers
Christy Perkins
Juan Quezada
Amy Quiett
Stan Renteria
Karen Rhodes
Kenny Riedel
Debra Robinson
Jim Rose
Tovar Sanjuana
Michelle Walker

All Aboard...Destination: Excellence District 25 Fall Conference

NOVEMBER 30—DECEMBER 1, 2007

at the Dallas/Fort Worth Marriott Airport South in Fort Worth, Texas

DESTINATION: EXCELLENCE

DISTRICT 25 FALL CONFERENCE

ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE
VISIT D25TOASTMASTERS.ORG/FALLCONFERENCE

\$25 BASIC REGISTRATION
\$95 FULL REGISTRATION—BY NOV 15

Marriott
DALLAS/FORT WORTH
AIRPORT SOUTH

Conference Education Session Highlights



What is Purpose Driven Leadership?

Purpose Driven Leadership is...We all have individual definitions of what this statement means. Be prepared to share and participate as our speaker provides what it means to her and how your leadership life can be enhanced.

Jennifer Johnson



Eight Essentials of Effective Speaking

Can you learn to be a *great* speaker in less than an hour? No, but you can learn to be a *better* speaker when you learn eight essentials every effective speaker must know. Let David Brooks, the 1990 World Champion of Public Speaking, teach you why the audience inherently wants you to succeed, what one question you must ask before you speak, why good speaking begins with good writing, how good writing can add color and style, and much more. But more important than anything else, you will learn Dave's famous "*Six Little Words That Can Change the Way You Speak.*"

David Brooks



Being Able Through Speaking

Are you always busy? Are you always busy doing the things you WANT to be doing? Live the life you want to live, and be the person you want to be, by being able to communicate effectively with the people in your life.

Abel Goddard

Table Topics Tactics

Table Topics happen not only at Toastmasters but also in everyday life. Most of our daily interactions are unscripted - so why not improve them? Whether you are looking for that edge at Table Topics Contests or just looking to provide better responses to everyday questions - this session is for you!



Dwayne Windham

Your Image Matters When You're the Presenter

Do you know how your audiences feel about you when they first see you? Are you getting all the positive reactions you want from your audiences? In this session, Cathrine will talk about creating a successful speaker image. You will look at various methods you can use to begin communicating your message before you open your mouth to say the first word.



Cathrine Hatcher

Coping with Stress

You will learn what stress is and what it is not, as well as the effects stress has on the body and mind. You will also learn effective coping skills and have fun in the process.



Kay Ray

You Can't Make Me Change Anything But My Underwear!



Anne Barab

In this program participants will learn techniques for improving customer service or patient care, the differences between negative and positive explanatory style, characteristics of people who habitually perceive change as danger versus opportunity, and how to deal with difficult situations and how to improve the quality of your own explanatory style.



Michael Goforth

Playing Fair in the Sandbox

Who pushes your buttons? Could you use some tips on how to motivate different personalities? Come join Immediate Past District 50 Governor Michael Goforth for a fun, interactive and informative session for these answers and more.



Sarfaraz Nazir

The Power of Wow: How to Design, Develop & Deliver a Powerful, Polished Presentation

Do you yearn to walk on to a platform and quickly "wow" the audience? This session will help you build that confidence. It covers winning tools, tips and techniques designed to add the "Power of Wow" to the content and delivery of your presentation. Whether you're a beginner or experienced presenter, you'll find a tip or two or three to make your presentations more impressive, effective, and memorable.



Angie Flinn

Managing Dysfunctional Behavior in Meetings

When you're the speaker, trainer, or facilitator, the responsibility for audience management lies on your shoulders. So what do you do when your audience won't cooperate? One person's dysfunctional behavior can ruin it for everyone. Whether you lead teams at work, deliver training to adults, or run Toastmasters business or committee meetings, this is the session for you! Learn how to identify, defuse, and manage dysfunctional behavior.



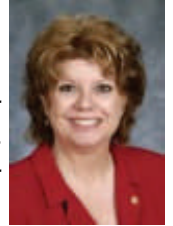
David Heywood

Operation Life Saver - A Chance to Serve, A Chance to Save.

Operation Life Saver is a nation-wide organization dedicated to saving lives at railroad crossings. This presentation will discuss the opportunities that exist for those looking not only to practice their speaking skills, but also to provide a public service to the communities in which they live.

Seeds of Success

Successful club environments are where members learn, grow and have fun. It is important that our members never lose sight of their goals and responsibilities to the club. It is equally important for clubs to provide a positive environment for their members to achieve their personal goals. When we nurture our members, they will flourish as they develop new skills, harvest many successes and share their positive experience with others.



Charlotte Howard

Close the Door!

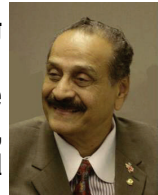
Studies have shown that most members leave a club because their needs are "no longer being met." To reverse this, participants taking part in this session will be focusing on areas that can directly impact the member retention rate in their club; member indoctrination, presentation evaluations and member/leadership development.



Tim Swearingen

Mentoring is Part of Listening & Learning

In this fast changing world of new challenges, we are all collaborating and cooperating with each other, listening and learning from one another, and help all those privileged and less privileged world of humanity. This is all part and portion of the "small world - a beautiful world.



Max E. Rasquinha



DeSorrow

Using Toastmasters to Create a Passive Income

It takes, time, effort, research and courage to deliver a Toastmasters speech. The presentation you create can also be referred to as an information product. If you want to know how to have your speech creation generate value in the form of passive income, this education session is for you.

Don't forget about Club Officer Training at the Conference! Saturday morning sessions offered by a Distinguished Panel of Past District Governors:

President - Charlotte Howard
 VP Education - Jennifer Johnson
 VP Public Relations - Angie Flinn
 VP Membership - Michael Goforth
 Secretary - Max Rasquinha
 Treasurer - Tim Swearingen
 Sergeant at Arms - Ron Bland