

The Firebirds Collective Story

## Who Inspires You?





**FREE**  
eBooks



WHOEVER  
WHENEVER  
WHEREVER  
YOU ARE

# INSTANTLY DOWNLOAD THESE MASSIVE BOOK BUNDLES

CLICK ANY BELOW TO ENJOY NOW

## 3 AUDIOBOOK COLLECTIONS

Classic AudioBooks Vol 1 ■ Classic AudioBooks Vol 2 ■ Classic AudioBooks Kids

## 6 BOOK COLLECTIONS

Sci-Fi ■ Romance ■ Mystery ■ Academic ■ Classics ■ Business

# CONTENTS

- 04 EDITORIAL COURAGE!  
by Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM
- 05 COVER STORY  
Who Inspires You?  
by Susan Ellsworth, DTM
- 07 VTEWPOINT  
Be There In Eugene  
by Michelle Alba-Lim, DTM  
District Director
- 08 FROM THE DESK  
Documentation Changes People  
by Leanna Lindquist, DTM  
Program Quality Director
- 09 FROM THE DESK  
Toastmasters 1st VP ready to  
promote District 7  
by Erik Bergman, DTM,  
Club Growth Director
- 10 Inmates Learn the Art of Public  
Speaking through Toastmasters  
by Samantha Swindler  
Columnist at The Oregonian / OregonLive.com



- 12 Distinguished by April 1st  
by Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM
- 13 Club Dues Challenge
- 14 Marketing: Why Messaging is  
So Important  
by Janet Hager
- 16 Strive2Thrive  
Back From The Brink: Club  
Coaches to the Rescue  
Scott Stevenson, DTM
- 18 BURIED TREASURE  
Salem Toastmasters Club #138  
Beginnings  
by Harvey Schowe, DTM  
District 7 Historian
- 20 SUCCESSFUL CLUB  
Gresham Toastmasters builds  
stable membership 5 ways  
By Rudy M. Erbrich, CC, VP of Education



# 16

## STRIVE 2 THRIVE

D7 CLUB COACH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- 23 WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
- 25 HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS
- 27 TRIPLE CROWN AWARD PINS
- 28 HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO MARCH CLUBS
- 30 MARCH-APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- 32 PERSPECTIVES  
Idea Germination  
by Shannon Milliman



- 33 JOURNEYS  
Spotlight on Thrill of the Quill  
by Alexis Mason, DTM
- 34 Tell Me a Story  
The Brick  
by Curtis Low  
Club President, New Horizons
- 37 Improving Through Practice  
by Feroze Hasan  
VP Education, Future Stars
- 39 2016-17 District Candidates



# 37



# EDITORIAL

## Are You Resiliant?

by Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM  
Immediate Past District Governor

### Publisher

Phyllis Harmon, DTM

### Associate Publisher

Brenda Parsons, ACB, ALS

### Senior Editor

Phyllis Harmon, DTM

### Associate Editors

Leanna Lindquist, DTM

Erik Bergman, DTM

Alexis Mason, DTM

### Layout/Design

Phyllis Harmon, DTM

Curtis Low

### 2015-16 Officers

District Director

Michelle Alba Lim, DTM

Program Quality Director

Leanna Lindquist, DTM

Club Growth Director

Erik Bergman, DTM

Finance Manager

Jill Ward, ACB, ALB

Administrative Manager

Tom Knapp, ACG, ALB

Public Relations Manager

Becky Holm

*Voices!* is published monthly by District 7 Toastmasters. First issue published August 2014. Submit articles via email at [voices@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:voices@d7toastmasters.org)

**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL



# Who Inspires You?

by Susan Ellsworth, DTM



At the 1988 Toastmasters International Convention, the Golden Gavel recipient retired Rear Admiral Grace Hopper said, “It’s easier to apologize than it is to get permission.”

*She inspired me.*

In August 2002, Policy 2.2b Club Minimum Requirement: “Regular meetings are conducted in person” was enacted.

On August 26, 2006 a news writer referring to attendees at the International Convention said “They meet and greet, guffaw, nod heads of salt-and-pepper hair and do the real communicating with their hands.” The writer went on to say that “The average age in the room might be 65. Toastmasters is not cool.”

*She inspired me.*

On September 5, I sent a letter to World Headquarters asking for their perspective on online meetings. The Board indicated they’d had a “good discussion” about “distance learning” during its August meeting. My offer to help with the process was not necessary at that point. Not cool.



Firebirds Collective Members



*However, that letter inspired me.*

In January 2009 I was in a Club Officer Training session. A member asked if it was acceptable to evaluate a pre-recorded manual speech on YouTube. The immediate past District Governor stood up and said it was against Toastmasters policy. Not cool.

*She inspired me.*

I sent an email to the trainer and the past District Governor. It reflected my belief that the movement toward online clubs would come from the Toastmasters members’ community.

On January 30 2009 I received a warning letter from the International President saying that some members had complained about my email. What I had said was against policy. Any further action on my part of that sort would

further action on my part would result in severe consequences. Not cool.

*She inspired me.*

I apologized. I also wrote that Helen Blanchard—the first female International President and Evelyn Jay Burgay—the first female World Champion of Public Speaking—had each joined Toastmasters before policy officially allowed women into Toastmasters.

In April 2013 I was invited to participate in an online staff study group. The group had been told not to advertise its presence and not to add members to its current group. Not cool.

*That restriction inspired me.*

I discovered other online clubs. I wrote posts about online clubs. I recruited likely members. On August 11 2013 I was invited to participate in my first 100% online Toastmasters meeting.

Was someone turning something around? Perhaps. Perhaps not.

By March 20, 2015 divergent values and leadership styles were not working well together. A team of eight—later known

as the Firebirds Collective—formed the core of a multi-national group of advanced Toastmasters dedicated to meeting 100% online. Soon others were brought into the group. In July 2015, members wrote and sent six white papers related to the online Toastmasters experience to the entire Board of Directors and senior World Headquarters staff.

In February 2016, the Toastmasters International Board of Directors reversed the earlier Policy 2.2.b. In its minutes, the Board said:

“1. The Board reviewed a proposal to allow online-only clubs to charter; this represents the second phase of the organization’s online strategy. In Phase 1, established in August 2015,

members were allowed online participation in clubs as long as the majority of members met in person. Phase 2 allows for online clubs where the majority of members are not in a single physical location. These clubs:

- a. Are all undistricted.
- b. Attend district-sponsored club officer training when available.
- c. Are potentially mentored by members of beta online clubs.
- d. Are not eligible to participate in any Speech Contests outside of their club other than the Taped Speech Contest.
- e. Determine the online platform to be used.
- f. Must begin existence as newly chartered clubs. Existing clubs may not become online clubs.

Protocol 2.0: Club and Membership Eligibility was updated and the Board unanimously voted to approve modifications to Policy 2.0: Club and Membership Eligibility.”

On March 29, 2016 the Firebirds Collective chartered with 28 members from Australia, Brunei, Canada, Germany, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Philippines, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The Firebirds Collective had helped to turn Toastmasters International around.

*Those Firebirds? They REALLY inspire me!*

Sagnik Biswas, one of the editors of *Spectrum*, a newsletter from INFOSYS Toastmasters in Mangalore, visited the Firebirds Collective on March 20 when the theme of our meeting was *Star Trek—Beyond the Toastmasters*. You can read his [comments](#) to gain his perspective of the club.

We have an upcoming meeting theme which is *Story Fest Around the Campfire*. We have a mix of “originals” who have been with us for almost a year and newer members. Originals will share brief highlights of our history and newer members will share their hopes and dreams for Firebirds Collective.

Other Firebirds Collective meetings have looked like traditional meetings: a Toastmaster of the Day, speakers, evaluators, table topics, grammarian, AH counter and so on. Timing devices have been everything from simple sheets of red, yellow and green construction paper held in front of the Timer’s web camera to red, yellow and green peppers held in the Timer’s hand. Just before Easter, our Timer

used red, yellow and green toy chickies. . .you never know what the next Timer is going to use!

Speeches, just as in brick-and-mortar traditional clubs are manual speeches that are always evaluated. We schedule meetings and track our progress through Easy-Speak.

We are blessed to have a member in our club who owns a license to GoToMeeting, and we have been using that since our first meeting on April 12, 2015. We are looking at alternatives. (Note: there are reviews of video conference tools and appropriate computer peripherals in the Online Toastmasters group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/onlinetoastmasters/> There are currently over 1000 participants in that group. Two other members of Firebirds Collective and I are the administrators for that group.)

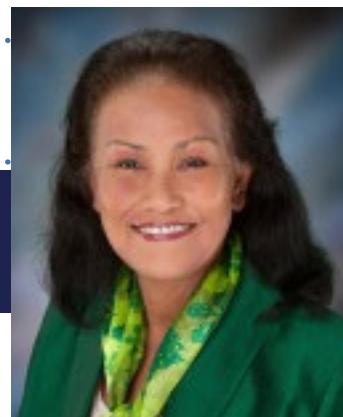
### Club Minimum Requirements

- A. Meetings are held at least 12 times per year.
- B. Regular meetings are conducted in-person, except when a club decides to allow a minority of its members to attend online, or when a club has chartered as an online club in which all members may attend online.
- C. Members work toward communication and leadership awards.
- D. Members give oral manual speeches and evaluations.
- E. Members have the opportunity to develop and practice leadership skills and earn leadership awards.

*Susan gave her first Icebreaker on May 14, 1981 at the Washtenaw Toastmasters Club #3054 in Ann Arbor Michigan (USA). She moved from Ann Arbor to Maryland in 1984 and credited the Crown of Laurel Toastmasters club with her first DTM on December 23, 1987. She remained with the club through mid 1989, when she took a long leave of absence to care for her ailing parents. She returned to Toastmasters in 2005 and has served in various club and District offices. She anticipates receiving her second DTM this Spring.*

*A lifelong learner with a Master’s degree in Library and Information Services, Susan enjoys music by Beethoven, photography by Ansel Adams, Star Trek, and the company of good friends from many different cultures around the globe.*

# VIEWPOINT



## Be There in Eugene! Michelle Alba-Lim, DTM - District Director

By the time you read this, we will be barely two weeks away from the Spring Conference. Are you feeling the excitement building up? I certainly am!

The Spring Conference is the biggest event of each Toastmasters year.

Like the Fall Conference, we will have an inspiring keynote speaker, excellent educational sessions, and awesome contestants. At the Fall Conference contests, the winners' journeys ended when they received their trophies. At the Spring Conference, receiving the trophy for the International Speech contest will herald the beginning of another, more challenging, journey. We will be witnesses to the spectacular speeches of nine division champions, as they vie for the honor of representing our district at the semifinals in Washington, DC. With the caliber of our contestants, and armed with powerful tips from our special educational speaker, World Champion Craig Valentine, our district representative may very well go on to compete for World Champion of Public Speaking! Be in Eugene as history is written!

Contests not your cup of tea? No problem! You have a plethora of other reasons to be at the Spring Conference in Eugene. Here are three compelling reasons:

- Toastmasters International First Vice-President Balraj Arunasalam will be our keynote speaker. Balraj will journey from halfway across the world to be at our Spring Conference. If Balraj can travel thousands of miles to be in Eugene, surely we can travel a few hundred miles to be

there for him. Your journey will be well worth it. Balraj is an inspiring speaker who will touch your hearts and encourage you to aspire to greater heights. Be there to hear him in Eugene!

- During the annual District 7 Council meeting, the District will choose the leaders who will guide us in the coming Toastmasters year. You will get to know the incoming District trio and the division directors. You will also hear important proposals affecting everyone, such as the District realignment proposal. Don't hear District developments after the fact. Be an engaged participant. Be there at the annual District Council meeting in Eugene!

- You'll make many new friends, reconnect with friends you've made from previous Toastmasters events, and finally meet all those "friends" you "liked" on Facebook. These friends will make your learning experiences so much more fun and rewarding. Some of them will reach out and offer encouraging words when you're down. Some of them will give you helpful feedback that will help you grow. You, in turn, may do the same for some of them. You'll never know unless you make those connections. And face-to-face interaction still trumps social media any day. Make those connections at the Spring Conference. Be there in Eugene!

If you haven't registered yet, do it right now by clicking on this [link](#). Be there in Eugene! I'll definitely be there!

## Leadership Opportunities

by Leanna Lindquist, DTM

Opportunities to practice and grow your leadership skills are abundant in District 7. It's not too early to consider an appointed position for the new Toastmaster year beginning July 1st. If you want to be considered for a position as an Area Director, Administrative Manager, Financial Manager Public Relations Manager please submit your name for consideration. Please click [here](#) to submit your name.







# FROM THE DESK

## Documentation Changes People

by Leanna Lindquist, DTM - Program Quality Director

It's a common misconception: completing education awards that contribute to the DCP, Distinguished Club Program, goals is all about "The District". I want to set the record straight, completing education awards is "All About the Member". It's right there in our Club Mission: We provide a supportive and positive learning experi-

*What came first?*



Photo courtesy of Depositphotos

ence in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

Here is an age old question. Which came first, the chicken or the egg? Which came first, the member award or the DCP goals? That's an easy one to answer. The member's awards always come first because it's all about the member. Completing manuals and earning educational awards is how we measure a person's growth in the program. This is the documentation part. Fill a role or give a speech, you receive written documentation as to how successful you were. Think about your own journey or that of another club member. What was learned from the Ice Breaker to project 10 in the Competent Communicator Manual? Did you see improvement? Were skills developed? Is self-confidence evident? This is the change.

### Documentation Changes Clubs

What does the DCP say about a club? You can tell a lot about a club by reviewing the goals

and whether or not they have been achieved. Are club officers attending training? We know clubs are more successful when their officers are trained. Is the club adding new members? New members keep a club interesting. They bring new stories to evaluate, they provide a new viewpoint when evaluating speeches and they are potential club officers. Are members earning education awards? This is a big one. A club that is supportive, encouraging and pays attention to the growth of its members will have completed education and leadership goals. A club full of highly motivated members earning awards can't help but create a dynamic sought after club.

### The Importance of Being a Distinguished Club

A club achieving 5 or more goals and 20 members, or 5 above their base, by June 30th earns the status of Distinguished (5 goals), Select Distinguished (7 goals), or Presidents Distinguished (9 goals). Distinguished clubs have many of the same characteristics:

- Members give manual speeches
- Club officers are trained
- Meetings are well run
- New members join
- Members earn educational awards
- Fun is a big part of the club
- Attendance at the meetings is good

Does this sound like a club you want to join? Does this describe your club? If not, you owe it to yourself to make some changes. Start with working on your educational awards. Always bring your manual to meetings. Don't ever speak for free. If you give a speech or serve in a club role always have someone evaluate it. That is your pay for speaking. You will change. You will grow. And so will your club. It's work to be a Distinguished Club. It's a source of pride to the members. It's worth the effort.

# FROM THE DESK

## Toastmasters 1st VP ready to promote District 7

by Erik Bergman, DTM, Club Growth Director



In our weekly club meetings, it's easy to forget the "International" part of Toastmasters International. What does the rest of the wide world have to do with our personal growth or our club activities?



Plenty. And District 7 is getting the chance to watch, learn and grow when we host the First Vice President of TI, Balraj Arunasalam, DTM, in May.

Balraj is a business owner and engineer from the island nation of Sri Lanka near India. He's been a Toastmaster for decades and an avid builder of the TI program in his home country. As First Vice president, he is next in line to be elected President of our global organization in 2017.

Part of the role of Club Growth Director is to show a visiting executive from Toastmasters International around



the district. Preparing for Balraj's visit has kept a team of us busy, and the pace is picking up even as you read this. International officers such as Balraj visit districts worldwide to help spread the message about the TI program. They act as ambassadors for our brand. A key goal is to visit companies that are interested in starting Toastmasters clubs for their employees.



The visits we're setting up for Balraj will take place May 2-9. You all have a chance to see Balraj May 6-7 at the Spring Conference in Eugene, so go online and buy your tickets. His presentations at the Spring Conference serve as the centerpiece of his visit. We have secured corporate meet-and-greet sessions for him at Dave's Killer Bread, Wells Fargo, Legacy Health, WE Communications and the City of Beaverton,



among others. He will also give Corporate Recognition Awards to US Bank and Nike for their ongoing support of Toastmasters.

Several clubs are also hosting him either so he can give a presentation or so he can watch them in action. He'll visit the Oregon State Prison to see Capitol Toastmasters, year after year a President's Distinguished club. He will also appear Sunday, May 8, 4 p.m., at Babble-On Toastmasters (another perennial President's Distinguished club), 935 NE 33rd Ave Portland, Oregon 97232-2516. You are all invited!

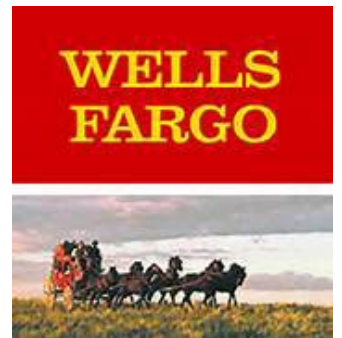


*The Best of Oregon*

In addition he will meet with District 7 leaders to learn how we are doing and where we are headed.

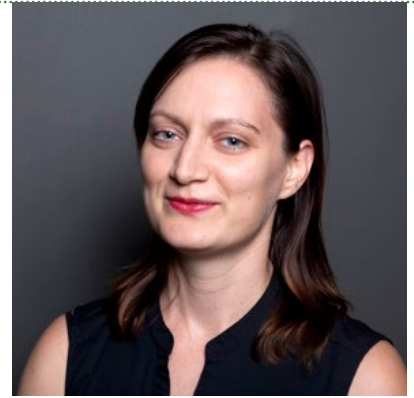
I'm looking forward to taking him around to see the companies and clubs, as well as the many sights our District offers.

We may still have corporate visit slots available due to schedules changes. If you know of a company of 200-plus employees he could visit, and can put me in touch with a key contact there, contact me ASAP at [cgd@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:cgd@d7toastmasters.org). I'll do my best to fit you in.



# Inmates Learn the Art of Public Speaking through Toastmasters

by Samantha Swindler  
Columnist at The Oregonian / OregonLive.com



Evan Watson stood behind the lectern, cleared his throat and introduced himself to about 20 other inmates.

“Good evening, fellow Toastmasters.”

This was Evan’s first speech – his icebreaker – meant as an introduction to the group.

He spoke quietly, but confidently, about growing up with dyslexia and a stutter. Teachers didn’t know how to help him, students laughed at him and his frustration led him to act out.

“One of the things I really fear is standing before people and being made fun of, because when I was little that really hurt me a lot,” he said, no trace of that childhood stutter in his voice. “I look back on a lot of the problems that I’ve created, and it has to do with my lack of



communication.”

He doesn’t talk about those problems, but the implication is they are part of what landed him here, in prison.

But something else – a desire to be a confident speaker – has brought him specifically to this classroom, on a Tuesday evening, to join the Columbia River

Correctional Institution chapter of Toastmasters International.

Toastmasters is a nonprofit dedicated to elevating the art of public speaking. If you’ve heard of the organization, you might be picturing businessmen networking at a private club. But there are many different types of Toastmasters clubs, and one arm of the group does outreach in Oregon prisons.

The Columbia River Correctional Institution club – Rose City Toasters – meets weekly to give speeches and critiques. Inmates in this Northeast Portland prison have four years or less left on their sentences, so the facility’s focus is on rehabilitation. I’ve been to public school rooms that looked more prison-like than the Toastmasters meeting space.

The meetings are conducted with the help of civilian volunteers, and one of the regulars is club coach Jason Kent.

Jason, a civil engineer, joined Toastmasters in 2004 “because I gave a speech at a conference and I bombed it very badly,” he said. To earn various designations within Toastmasters International, Jason needed to help mentor at another club.

The only nearby club that fit with his work schedule was Rose City Toasters.

“I’ll be honest, my first reaction was ‘No, hell no, why do I want to be around those folks?’” he said. “But it took me not long to realize, this is a horizon broadening opportunity for me, and it could be a good opportunity for the guys as well.”

Jason fulfilled his Toastmaster obligation after



Jason Kent, ACS, ALB and Allen Edinger, DTM during club meeting on March 1, 2016

a few months, but he keeps going back to the prison. He's been the Rose City Toasters coach for two-and-a-half years.

Inmate Nik Sparlin, 34, is president of Rose City Toasters. He has an anarchy symbol tattooed on his ear, "South" and "East" tattooed on his arms.

Nik has been in Toastmasters so long that everyone who heard his icebreaker two years ago has been released. On Tuesday he gave

another introduction speech about how his mom taught him to steal as a child.

"I felt like I was stepping up in school when I graduated to armed robbery," he said.

"Like, it was something you knew you were going to eventually do. So when I did six years for my armed robbery, it was something I expected."

Allan Edinger, prison liaison for Toastmasters District 7, leaned toward me during Nik's speech and said I was witnessing a rare event. Most inmates don't talk about their crimes.

Allan rarely asks.

"It doesn't matter to us as long as they take

the program seriously," he said.

Allan, a retired accounts-payable manager, has been leading Toastmasters clubs in Oregon prisons for 20 years. He currently oversees seven clubs with hundreds of inmates.



Rose City Toastmasters members at Columbia River Correctional Institution, March 1, 2016

"You saved my life," is something Allan has heard more than once.

After three inmates give speeches, the meeting shifts from soul-baring stories to silliness for "table topics." Speakers are given

two minutes to speak on a surprise – often absurdist – prompt chosen by that night's table topics leader.

Last week, Max Heller's prompt was: You're a presidential candidate who's

been slandered. What is the slander, and how do you defend yourself?

Max clutched the sides of the lectern, thought for just a few seconds, and [More]

*Samatha Swindler is an award-winning columnist for the Oregonian/OregonLive.com. Editor, writer, photographer, former publisher, page designer and small town lover looking to make impactful community journalism. Native of Louisiana, long-time Texan, former Kentuckian, now living in Oregon.*

## Widen Your Business Footprint

Do you have a business or service that you wish to promote? Could it be beneficial to share that information with other Toastmasters? An investment of \$25 will place a color copy of your business card in the program of our Spring Conference, Leading the World.

Toastmasters like to do business with other Toastmasters. Whether you attend the conference or not, your name and business will be in front of potential clients. Your advertisement investment will help support our conference. Place your ad before April 23rd to assure your place in the program. [Click here to place your ad.](#)





# Distinguished by April 1<sup>st</sup>

Congratulations to the 7 clubs who set their goals and met or exceeded them. These clubs will receive \$50 gift cards to the Toastmasters International Store

	Members	Required	Goals Completed
<b>Distinguished</b>			
Babble-On	22	20	9
New Horizons	22	20	9
Noon Talkers	26	20	6
West Beaverton	33	20	9
<b>Presidents Distinguished</b>			
Moser Community	23	20	9
Sporty Speakers	29	20	9
Swan Island	27	20	9

CONGRATULATIONS  
to our **WINNERS!**



---

# Club Dues Challenge

---

Last June we learned, effective September 30, 2016, all those not paying dues will no longer be members on October 1, 2016. Incentives were offered to those clubs renewing 75 to 100% of their dues by April 1st. This was a practice exercise to prepare for the next dues cycle. As it stands members are considered in good standing 60 days after the official due date of April 10th. That means you can compete in contests and hold office. On October 1st if your dues are not at World Headquarters you are no longer a Toastmaster. Only Toastmasters can compete in contests and serve as club officers. It is critical that each club develop a good strategy for collecting and submitting all their dues on time. In the next issue of Voices! clubs will share what they did to achieve a high rate of payment.

The results are in. . .

57 clubs renewed dues for 75% or more of their members

9 clubs renewed dues for 100% of their members

Fifteen clubs were randomly chosen from the list of 57 clubs to receive \$75 gift certificates to the Toastmasters International Store. Congratulations to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clark County</li><li>• Columbian</li><li>• Grants Pass</li><li>• I.R. Speaking</li><li>• Jefferson State</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• La Pine Chamber Noon Talkers</li><li>• Noon Time</li><li>• NuScale</li><li>• Oregon City</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rogue Communicators</li><li>• Roseburg Speakers by Design</li><li>• Timber Talkers</li><li>• Toasting Excellence</li></ul>
--	--	--

Five winners were randomly chosen from the list of the 9 clubs to receive \$100 gift certificates to the Toastmasters International Store. Congratulations to:

- Bridge
- Liberty
- Prime Time
- Salem
- Testmasters

Gift certificates will be ordered and mailed to the Club Presidents.





# Marketing: Why Messaging is So Important

by Janet Hager

Marketing is about relationships, and relationships rely on communication. Marketing is, at its core, a specialized kind of communication. Communication, at its most basic level, follows a sender-receiver model.

A sender (that would be you) sends a message (some kind of marketing communication) to a receiver (a potential client or customer, for example). That message could be your answer to the so-what-do-you-do question, or your logo, or your website, or a marketing email—any one of the myriad pieces of communication you put out there to the world about your company each and every day.

Simple, right?

Except that between you and your receiver stand a bunch of road blocks that your message has to get through in order to reach your receiver. That's why messaging is so important: if you want your message to make it through the road blocks, you have to anticipate what might get in its way and craft your message so it will bust through those obstacles.

## Road Block One: the media

The media is the delivery mechanism that carries your message to the receiver. The media matters; it impacts how your message is perceived and understood.

Certain messages are better suited to one type of media than another. You would never send an entire college course catalog in a text message, for example, because that media isn't a good fit for that message. By contrast, you wouldn't mail a printed postcard to let students know a class has been cancelled.

The media can also generate subconscious reactions in your receiver that will change how your message is perceived. An editorial in the Enquirer, for example, creates a different impression on a receiver than an editorial in the New York Times.

Marketing is about relationships, and relationships rely on communication. Marketing is, at its core, a specialized kind of communication. Communication, at its most basic level,



follows a sender-receiver model.

Certain messages are better suited to one type of media than another. You would never send an entire college course catalog in a text message, for example, because that media isn't a good fit for that message. By contrast, you wouldn't mail a printed postcard to let students know a class has been cancelled.

The media can also generate subconscious reactions in your receiver that will change how your message is perceived. An editorial in the Enquirer, for example, creates a different impression on a receiver than an editorial in the New York Times.

## Road Block Two: choices you make in crafting the message

Word choice, design choices, color and font choices, all work together to create an impression. You can say "it's the second to last one" or you can say "penultimate"; either way, you're creating an impression. Whether you print your business cards on thin paper or the thickest card stock, you're creating a

subconscious impression. Often it's not one thing that tips the scales, but the combination of choices you've made throughout your messaging and materials. Make sure all of those choices you're making are in line with the impression you want to make.

### **Road Block Three: the black box effect**

You carefully craft your message, gently send it on its way toward your receiver, and hope for the best, because what happens to it once it gets in your receiver's head is completely out of your control. You don't know what they're going to do with the information. You don't know if they're having a great day, or if their dog just died. You don't know whether they love you right now or hate you. You don't know whether they've had good or bad experiences with other practitioners in your industry.

Starting to seem maybe not so simple?

It's like that kids' game, telephone. You put

your message into the system at one end, and that message gets reinterpreted at every step along the way until it comes out at the other end. The more crisply you can enunciate your message in the beginning, the likelier it is to make it through to the other side intact.

That's why messaging is so important. Carefully crafted messages have the best possible chance of getting through all those road blocks and making it to your receiver.

When it comes to your Toastmasters club, here are some things to think about. Where should you place messaging about your club? What phrases or words should ALWAYS be used, and what phrases or words should NEVER be used to describe what your club is all about? Who are you trying to reach, and what internal mental roadblocks might you need to overcome?

*Janet Clesse Hager can help you find develop powerful messaging, and then some. She's a marketing and branding specialist, a dynamic speaker, distiller of information, and solver of problems. Her company is called Tinfish Initiatives.*

## **TLI - Toastmasters Leadership Institute Saturday, June 25, 2016 • 8-3:15pm**

# **Be Extraordinary**

Mark your calendar now for this full day of club officer training, breakout sessions and networking. Make this your best Toastmasters year yet by attending this special training designed to take you from ordinary to extraordinary.

**Call for Speakers:** We are looking for presenters. If you have a one hour interactive session that will allow our members to go from ordinary to extraordinary please fill out the form. Questions? [pqd@d7toastmasters.org](mailto:pqd@d7toastmasters.org)

**Wilsonville High School • Wilsonville, Oregon**





## Back From The Brink: Club Coaches to the Rescue

Scott Stevenson, DTM

When clubs charter, the members have a vision, which is to keep up the excitement, have fun, and reach their individual objectives. Yet, over time, many clubs seem to run out of steam. They start to stagnate and begin a slow spiral that could end in the death of the club. Memberships decline and ultimately these clubs will fail if nothing is done to stop the slide to oblivion.

In early 2014, Civil Tongues Toastmasters had a membership that hovered around 12 members. The club was approached and asked if they would like a Club Coach assigned, and the response was “why not?”. As a result, two coaches (Carrie Henderson and myself) were assigned to the club and, whether the club knew it or not, the journey to being a distinguished club had begun.



The first step in the club’s recovery was for the coaches to assess the club’s strengths and weaknesses. They observed that the club had several experienced members, but made little effort in trying to grow the club’s membership. In fact, the prevailing attitude was that the current membership level was OK. The meetings were low energy, not very exciting. The club’s treasurer was non-existent; no one knew how much money the club had to help market itself.

The coaches began to offer suggestions to help market the club, such as adding signs to show where the meeting was taking place. Adding name cards to the club’s inventory, a box to store the name cards and meeting tools, and to find a place to store the club’s meeting materials. They also spruced up the club’s

FreeToastHost-based website to show photos of the members and help market the club. The coaches recommended that the club officers be visible and available, as well as participate in managing the club’s business. Both coaches became officers at the next elections. A club success plan was developed and the club had a clear path to being successful.

The suggestions were not always well received. For some members who were happy with the status quo, the suggestions were taken as intrusions. Over the course of the next year, they left the club. Initially, net membership growth was negative. The coaches did not view this as a setback, but as part of the rebuilding process. We wanted new, younger, high-energy members that could make the club’s leadership and meetings more visible to members and guests alike.

The strategies began to pay off. As guests were welcomed and encouraged to join, the membership decline began to slowly turn around. After a year of rebuilding, the newer members began to step up and fill the officer roles. An air of excitement and anticipation began to build. The club was on its way back from stagnation to being THE CLUB we all wanted to belong to.

With the membership growth, enthusiastic officers, and a vision – Civil Tongues started off this year with an achievable objective for itself: Be Distinguished by April 1, 2016. The club started the year with 13 members, and on April

## 00006222 Civil Tongues Club President's Distinguished

Club Alignment	
Region	<b>2</b>
District	<b>07</b>
Division	<b>E</b>
Area	<b>61</b>

Membership	
Base	<b>13</b>
To Date	<b>18</b>
Required <b>18</b>	
20 members or a net growth of 5 new members	

Goals	
Goals Met	<b>9</b>
Distinguished	<b>5</b>
Select Distinguished	<b>7</b>
President's Distinguished	<b>9</b>

6th, they added their 18th member. Not only had they met the DCP membership requirement, but they had also completed nine of ten DCP objectives – they were President's Distinguished!! They will finish the year having completed all ten DCP objectives.

Civil Tongues Toastmasters finishes this year as a President's Distinguished Club, something they have done very few times in their 15 years of existence. However, each time they previously became President's Distinguished, they failed to achieve even the Distinguished level for several years thereafter. I do not believe that trend will continue

next year and beyond for this club. The club now has a very strong membership and leadership makeup as part of the club's culture. They are excited about their rebound, and are already looking forward to next year's success. Even though their club coaches will have achieved their objectives and will move on, they never really go away. Like protective parents, we will always be hovering just outside the periphery and are just a phone call or email away.

*Scott has been an active member of D7 for many years. Some of his previous roles include serving as a club officer in every club he has belonged, Area & Division Governor, and he has had the privilege of serving as our District Governor during the 2009-10 Toastmaster year.*

## The Club Coach program helps struggling clubs become Distinguished clubs.

### Club Coach Program Regulations

- ▶ A club coach may only be assigned by the district director or the club growth director.
- ▶ A club must have 12 or fewer members at the time a coach is appointed, and coaches cannot be members of the club at the time of appointment.
- ▶ Up to two coaches may be appointed to a club.
- ▶ The appointment lasts to June 30 of the current program year if the club becomes Distinguished or better. If Distinguished club status is not reached in the initial program year, the assignment will be extended to June 30 of the following year.

### Club Coach Recognition

- ▶ Each club coach receives a pin upon assignment.
- ▶ After successfully completing the assignment, each club coach receives a certificate and credit toward the Advanced Leader Silver award.
- ▶ A certificate will be sent to each club coach upon successful completion.
- ▶ Districts are asked to publicly acknowledge appointments and successes.



**WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE**

Nov. 4/16/15 | Item #226



# BURIED TREASURE

## Salem Toastmasters Club #138 Beginnings

by Harvey Schowe DTM-District 7 Historian

Salem Toastmasters Club #138 originated from the Public Forum club as an extension of YMCA public speaking classes. The Forum Club organized in March 1924 with 20 members. Members met on Tuesday evenings where they discussed current topics. Dr. Henry E. Maris was elected as first club president. During October 1923 students attending Friday evening public speaking forum class became so interested in public speaking they began holding their own meetings. Before 1921, Willamette University, Salem High School and private instructors provided public speaking instruction in the Salem area. On January 17, 1921, Salem YMCA added a salesmanship class to the curriculum. This class was an immediate success with 30 students attending. Another salesmanship class was added in April 1921 because the class doubled in size. A Friday evening public speaking class was added November 1922 with Dr. C. E. Powell, Kimball College of Theology, as the instructor. Professor William Harrington of Portland taught Friday evening speech classes in 1923. Professor Harrington, an outstanding teacher, taught public speaking classes at Oregon Institute of Technology and at Franklin High School in Portland. He continued teaching public speaking in 1925. Quotas for public speaking classes were quickly filled and YMCA staff organized two more classes in January 1924.

Forum or Y Forum Club members invited guest speakers and held discussions and debates discussing business relationships, sociology, and community life. Salem Statesman newspaper editorial commended the Forum Club for expanding the vision, increasing the comprehension and provided better conclusions on current affairs. This club was superior to service clubs. Members held debates on topics such as preference of a

gasoline tax over existing state automobile tax on March 2, 1926. Other debate topics included bonding for local airport 1928, removal of public camp grounds 1928 and imposing a toll on Champoege Highway between Salem and Portland. Dinners were added to bimonthly meetings and later meetings were held weekly. Meetings lasted from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Club membership hovered around thirty. Membership requirements were two years of YMCA public speaking classes or one year of college public speaking.

Members were typically businessmen and in 1930 Judge O.P. Coshow, Judge Hamilton, C. C. Aller, manager of the local telephone company, and Reverend Norman K. Tully became members. At first men were club members but during October 1931 women participated in dinner and the discussions that followed.

Club president Rich L. Reiman held a meeting on May 2, 1932 to prepare for a speaking contest with Portland YMCA advance public speaking class where ten members of each group spoke about causes and remedies of world economic conditions. Rich Reiman visited the Portland YMCA /OIT speech class to arrange the contest. Mrs. C. A. Kellis led a round table discussion on international problems with emphasis on American relations with China. This speech contest was held on Thursday May 26, 1932 at Salem Association Building after 7:00 pm dinner. Each side had at least six speakers. The speech contest was a discussion debate about world economic problems.

*Voices Article Source: Material for Voices article obtained from various Salem Statesman Newspaper articles and with written copyright permissions obtained for using this material.*

# Leading the World

Lane Community College • Eugene, Oregon

**Saturday May 7, 2016 - 7am-6:30pm**

## Mastering Storytelling for Better Speaking



What is the absolute most important skill you need in speaking? It is the ability to tell your story and sell your point. This is due to the following truth:

"When people buy into your story, they buy into your message. In Daniel Pink's groundbreaking book, *A Whole New Mind*, he emphasizes we are moving from the "Information Age" into the "Conceptual Age." People need a way to filter through a daily avalanche of information. Hence, they look to concepts as shortcuts. Who wins in this new age? Those who sell concepts win. What's the best way to sell concepts? Storytelling.

In this powerful and interactive program, Craig Valentine shares tools to help you...

- Keep audiences on the edge of their seats with your stories
- Uncover humor that keeps your audience laughing throughout the speech
- Connect deeper than most speakers ever will
- Get your audience to take the next step you want them to take (connect and convert)
- Become the kind of speaker others line up and sign up to see

This is one interactive program you cannot afford to miss! Turn yourself into a storytelling champion and watch as opportunities become abundant for you.

### District 7 Toastmasters Spring Conference

**May 7 - 7am-6:30pm**

- **First 75 Registrations - \$55**
- **General Admission - \$65\***
- **Saturday Dinner & Discourse - \$35**

**\*Breakfast & Lunch included in registration**



**MAIN  
CAMPUS**



Lane Community College  
Center for Meeting and Learning  
4000 E 30th Ave, Eugene, OR 97405

Register at: <http://d7toastmasters.org/spring2016>

# SUCCESSFUL CLUB

## Gresham Toastmasters builds stable membership 5 ways

By Rudy M. Erbrich, CC, VP of Education

Founded in April 1951, Gresham Toastmasters is one of the oldest active clubs in the Portland area. A club legacy that stretches over more than six decades is worth celebrating, while also prompting an obligation to maintain a healthy, adaptable organization that can support community needs well into the future.

We have developed and maintained fairly consistent and high membership levels in the last several years, ranging from 25 to 28 people.

What is the secret of stable membership at Gresham Toastmasters? These five things work for us.

1-Honor and celebrate our past. One of our members, Don Holtzheimer, has been with Gresham Toastmasters since 1953, and is therefore the longest active club member west of the Mississippi. Two years ago, we took the opportunity to throw him a party, honoring his life and family and saying thank-you to his outstanding service to the community and to the club. He always leads by example on how to treat each other with respect, so that everyone can tell their story.

2-Provide a safe environment for making mistakes. We pride ourselves on being a very welcoming and responsive club. Requests by email or phone are answered the same day. At meetings, guests are introduced and encouraged to participate, and it is absolutely OK for them to come and watch for a few meetings. New members are slowly integrated into meeting roles and longtime members are very good at encouraging them with written feedback.



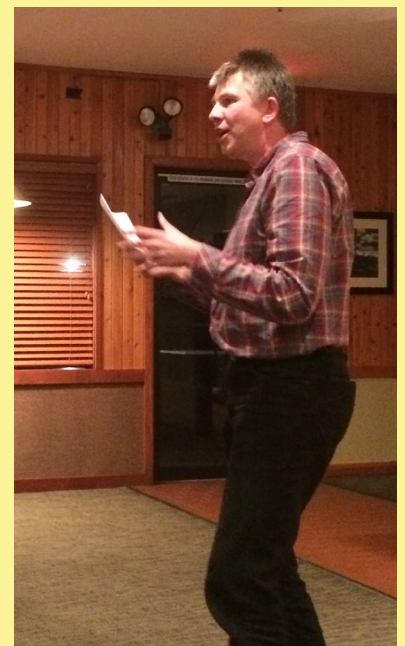
3-Special

“debate”



meetings. To challenge everyone to go beyond their comfort zones, and based on the suggestion of a member, we created a meeting where none of the roles are assigned in advance, except for Toastmaster. All other roles are assigned after the meeting has started! Members draw lots to see which roles they will have that day. So everybody has to come prepared to be either Table Topics Master, Speech Evaluator, Timer, Grammarian or, yes, even Speaker. This helped all of us create a pocket speech, and it also allows us to be ready for regular meetings when someone has an unexpected engagement come up and someone else has to fill the role.

4-Special “debate” meetings. Our newest invention is also based on a suggestion of one of our newer members: We are holding our first debate meeting this month. The idea is to have “candidates” give 5-minute speeches and then answer questions from the audience. At the end, an





participate in contests, and our winners always are cheered on before a loud and rowdy crowd in area contests. Sometime we have 10 members in the audience, supporting our representatives.



evaluator provides feedback to everyone involved.

5-Camaraderie through outside activities. We have made it a tradition to meet at least once a year for an activity outside of Toastmasters. These include barbecues at members' homes, visits to the Oregon Food Bank, Christmas parties, etc. While it is important to keep in mind that Toastmasters



provides an education and a path to self-improvement, learning how to speak in front of an audience and leadership skills, we find it is helpful to get to know each other on a different, personal level. This has helped members to be more engaged. Officer roles are almost always filled and contest participation is excellent. We are proud to give as many different members as possible a chance to

## TOASTAMONIAL

*Toastmasters is very important for our business. We want to be able to stand up and make our presentation with confidence! Toastmasters is part of our business plan.*

Gloria and Bruce Crockett  
Redmond Area Toastmasters

**FORGOT TO PAY  
YOUR DUES?**



**Renew by 5/31/2016  
to remain an active  
member**

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Last Name	First Name
The Dalles Toastmasters Club	Aguirre	Elias
University of Oregon Club	Antram	Mason
ToastMD	Avery	Lisa
Southern Oregon Speechmasters	Bashans	Gail
ToastMD	Bauman	Liza
Bend Chamber Toastmasters	Bennett	Brian
Milwaukie Talkies	Berglund	Steven
ToastMD	Beutler	Daniel
University of Oregon Club	Bowen	Raychel
Portland Progressives	Bower	Melanie
I.R. Speaking Toastmasters Club	Brady	Joseph
Salmon Speakers	Branch	Alek
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Bucy	Tim
Sage Beaverton Toastmasters	Carlson	Ed
Silvertongues	Catino	Cayla
Tualatin Valley Toastmasters Club	Challa	Sashikiran
ToastMD	Chartier	Lynne
Gateway Toastmasters	Cohen	Shmuel
ToastMD	Cole	Nancy
ToastMD	Cooney	Sean
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Davis	John
University of Oregon Club	Doerr	Brian
Symantec Toastmasters	Duursma	Okke
Walker Talkers Toastmasters Club	Eby	David
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Etter	Karen
Marylhurst Toastmasters	Fenton	Karyn
Noontime Nomads Club	Finsand	Josephine
Essayons Club	Foster	Ross
Testmasters	Franco	Francisco
Portland Progressives	Godman	Louis
Portland Club	Goggins	Thomas
The Dalles Toastmasters Club	Gray	Russell
ToastMD	Grimmett	Shaun
Corvallis Evening Group	Grip	Brandon
Astoria Toastmasters	Harikedua	Silvana
ToastMD	Heun	Chris
Talk-In-Tel	Horner	Brad
Talk-In-Tel	Huynh	Trang
Portland Club	Jensen	Laurel
ToastMD	Kemble	Whitley
Downtown Public Speakers Club	Kim	Jin-Hyung
Downtown Lunchbunch	Kirsch	Kyle
New Beginnings Toastmasters	Klarenbach	James
Portland Club	Klonosik	Zach
Speakeasy Toastmasters	Knickerbocker	David
Toast of Corvallis Toastmasters Club	Landis	Gretchen
Speakeasy Toastmasters	Larsen	Steen



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club Name	Last Name	First Name
Silicon Forest Club	Li	Meng
Milwaukie Talkies	Loose	Hope
New Beginnings Toastmasters	Louie	Monica
ToastMD	Marsh	Heather
ToastMD	Merrill	Elton
WE Toasted Toastmasters	Moon	Ben
Babble-On Toastmasters Club	Morrison	David
Milwaukie Talkies	Moses	Jeff
ToastMD	Munson	Mark
Portland Club	Neish	Kenneth
ToastMD	Ostrin	Jeff
Bend Chamber Toastmasters	Perrigan	Tyler
ToastMD	Petsche	Joseph
ToastMD	Pruzin	Donna
McMinnville Toastmasters	Richter	Jennifer
Moser Community Toastmasters	Rogers	Rachel
University of Oregon Club	Rojas	Tiffany
ToastMD	Sands	Heather
Newberg Toastmasters Club	Schroeder	Victoria
University of Oregon Club	Slaughter	Kim
ToastMD	Steffanson	Shane
Symantec Toastmasters	Stone	Rebecca
Professionals of Portland Toastmasters	Strength	Natasha
Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852	Thornton	Sandra
Gorge Windbags	Tippel	Edward
ToastMD	Tomoso	John
Moser Community Toastmasters	Truong	Dean
Portland Club	Tucker	Robert
ToastMD	Uhrich	Jana
Salmon Speakers	Van Cleef	Samuel
Astoria Toastmasters	Visser	Jennifer
ToastMD	Vorderstrasse	Aaron
Corvallis Evening Group	Wade	Kirsten
Portland Club	Wilson	Quinn
Suite Talkers Toastmasters	Zavalney	Katrina
Wonderful Oregon Wordmasters (WOW)	Zolezzi	Blake

# HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

AWARD	DATE	MEMBER	CLUB NAME
CC	3/15/2016	Anderson, John Eric	Early Words Club
ACG	3/28/2016	Anthony, Joseph D.	Liberty Talkers
CL	3/3/2016	Ayala, Daniel	Lake Oswego Toastmasters Club
CC	3/4/2016	Bergman, Erik	WE Toasted Toastmasters
ACB	3/3/2016	Brenner, Susan	Clackamas Stepping Stones Tm Club
CC	3/2/2016	Brewer, Robert J.	Gresham Toastmasters Club
CC	3/1/2016	Calfee, Bridget D.	West Beaverton Club
CC	3/9/2016	Campos-Canessa, Gonzalo	Jantzen Club
CL	3/31/2016	Canney, Laurie Ann	Passport To Leadership
CL	3/31/2016	Canney, Laurie Ann	Passport To Leadership
CL	3/15/2016	Crosby, Nicole A.	New Beginnings Toastmasters
DTM	3/11/2016	Dabi, Romeo J.	Electric Toasters Club
ALS	3/11/2016	Dabi, Romeo J.	Electric Toasters Club
CL	3/2/2016	Davis, Cornelius	Capital Toastmasters Club
CL	3/26/2016	Forde, Libra T.	Babble-On Toastmasters Club
ACS	3/26/2016	Forde, Libra T.	Babble-On Toastmasters Club
CC	3/31/2016	Fox, Amy J	Rogue Valley Networking
CC	3/21/2016	Guffey, Paris A.	Portland Club
ACS	3/10/2016	Hale, Dawnette S.	Swan Island Toastmasters
CL	3/14/2016	Hang, Sopha T.	Timber Talkers Club
ACS	3/7/2016	Hanson, Penny J.	Blue Ox Club
CC	3/28/2016	Harris, Cammie L.	Cascade Toastmasters Club
CL	3/10/2016	Haydon, Steve	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
ACS	3/30/2016	Heitz, Nena	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
CL	3/10/2016	Heitz, Nena	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
CL	3/8/2016	Heun, Carole C.	FIG Masters Club
CC	3/26/2016	Hovland, Teresa V	Moser Community Toastmasters
CL	3/20/2016	Hovland, Teresa V	Moser Community Toastmasters
CL	3/15/2016	Ingersoll, Kirsten L.	Clack-Orators Toastmasters
CL	3/18/2016	Johnson, Stephana M.	Moser Community Toastmasters
CC	3/30/2016	Kelly, Anna N.	Professionals of Portland
CL	3/16/2016	Kennedy, Vickie D.	Siuslaw Tale Spinners Club
CL	3/17/2016	Krajewski, Joseph E.	Speakers With Spirit Club
CL	3/22/2016	Lewis, Martie	Cedar Hills Club
ACB	3/31/2016	Li, Beverly F.	Electric Toasters Club
ALB	3/11/2016	Li, Beverly F.	Electric Toasters Club
CC	3/8/2016	Lindberg, Kristina L.	Sherwood Town Criers Club
ACB	3/10/2016	Lindquist, Leanna	Feedbackers Toastmasters Club
CC	3/21/2016	Liu, Max	Wafermasters Club
ACB	3/27/2016	Locke, Julius Patrick	Early Words Club
CC	3/7/2016	Love, Dottie	Sporty Speakers

# HONORING EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

CC	3/1/2016	Lunsford, Thomas	Marylhurst Toastmasters
CC	3/17/2016	Mellgren, Sarah R	Lunch Bunch Toastmasters Club
ACS	3/23/2016	Parsons, Brenda D.	Wallmasters International Club
CC	3/24/2016	Partridge, Al Steven	Toastmasters of the Universe
CC	3/6/2016	Perry, James A.	Siuslaw Tale Spinners Club
CC	3/30/2016	Ramakrishnan, Vasini	Lunch Bunch Toastmasters Club
ACS	3/23/2016	Redgrave, Cheri A.	Communicators Plus
CC	3/18/2016	Reilly, Marili	Sunrise Toastmasters Club #1492
ACS	3/29/2016	Rodke, John Russell	University of Oregon Club
ACB	3/14/2016	Rogers, Michael L.	NoonTime Club
ALB	3/25/2016	Rollinger, Robert E.	Downtown Lunchbunch
CC	3/21/2016	Schempf, Bettina K.	Corvallis Evening Group
CC	3/4/2016	Schmidt, Gary	Clackamas Stepping Stones Tm Club
ACB	3/16/2016	Semprevivo, Karen Ann	Civil Tongues Club
CL	3/14/2016	Semprevivo, Karen Ann	At The River's Edge Club
ACB	3/7/2016	Simmons, Jacque Edward	WRIP City Club
ACB	3/11/2016	Simmons, Rashelle	WRIP City Club
ACG	3/8/2016	Stevens, Katherine M.	Toastmasters of the Universe
CC	3/30/2016	Stevenson, Scott	Marylhurst Toastmasters
ACS	3/28/2016	Stevenson, Scott	Mentors Of Focus Club
ACB	3/28/2016	Stevenson, Scott	Mentors Of Focus Club
CL	3/3/2016	Tatro, Katherine E.	Newberg Toastmasters Club
CC	3/3/2016	Tatro, Katherine E.	Newberg Toastmasters Club
CL	3/30/2016	Tippel, Tammara Kay	Gorge Windbags
ALB	3/4/2016	Tully, Kathleen	WE Toasted Toastmasters
CL	3/3/2016	Tully, Kathleen	WE Toasted Toastmasters
CC	3/10/2016	Varcoe, Daniel	La Pine Chamber Toastmasters
CL	3/4/2016	Wedekind, Cindy Marie	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
CC	3/29/2016	Weiss, Andrew J	University of Oregon Club
CC	3/17/2016	West, Larry J.	Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852
ACS	3/3/2016	Wheeler, Robert L.	Clackamas Stepping Stones Tm Club
CC	3/18/2016	Winn, Barbara L.	Flying Toasters Club
ACS	3/11/2016	Wolfe, Jane	Vancouver Toastmasters Club
CL	3/3/2016	Wolfe, Jane	Vancouver Toastmasters Club
CL	3/9/2016	Wood, Kevin A.	Southern Oregon Speechmasters

# TRIPLE CROWN AWARD PINS



MEMBER	AWARDS	
Anthony, Joseph D.	4	ACB ALB ACS ACG
Bennett, Allison	3	CC CL ACB
Clark, Michael A.	3	ACB CL ALB
Duby, Kendra Morgan	3	CL CC ALB
Fanning, Paul C.	3	CL ALB ACG
Hale, Dawnette S.	3	ALB ACB ACS
Harmon, Phyllis A.	5	CC ALB CC ACB ACS
Heitz, Nena	3	ACB CL ACS
Hills, Dennis Bernard	3	CL ALB ACS
Jensen Cramer, Diana K.	3	CC CL ALB
Kinney, Ray C.	3	CL ACB CC
Knapp, Thomas K.	3	ALS DTM CC
Lawless, John R.	3	ALS DTM CL
Locke, Julius Patrick	10	CC DTM ALS CC ACS CL ACS ALB ALB ACB
Pena, Jolynne	3	ACB CL ALB
Rodke, John Russell	4	CL CC ACS ALB
Rose, Jason	3	ACS CC ACG
Semprevivo, Karen Ann	9	ALS ALB DTM CL CC ALB CL CL ACB
Stevens, Katherine M.	3	CC CL ACG
Stevenson, Scott	9	CL ALB ACS ACB CC CC DTM ACG CL
Wantz, James	4	ALB CC ACS CL
West, Larry J.	4	ACG ALS DTM CC

# Happy Anniversary To April Clubs

The following clubs are celebrating their charter anniversary this month. Congratulations to all!

A special shout out to Essayons, Gresham, Hood River, Portland, Salem, and Yaquina who have passed the half-century mark!

Charter	Years	Clubname
4/15/2013	3	A-Dec
4/1/1986	30	Clackamas Stepping Stones Tm
4/1/1987	29	Communicators Plus
4/1/1970	46	Early Words
4/30/2003	13	Embracing Cultures
4/1/1959	57	Essayons
4/1/1951	65	Gresham
4/1/1949	67	Hood River
4/11/2006	10	I.R. Speaking
4/18/2013	3	Lebanon
4/1/1996	20	Noon Talkers
4/1/1935	81	Portland
4/2/2002	14	Redmond Area
4/1/1939	77	Salem
4/30/2014	2	Toastmasters of the Universe
4/1/1986	30	Transtasters
4/1/1999	17	University of Oregon
4/2/2002	14	Wafermasters
4/1/1965	51	Yaquina



## APRIL

**23**

Last day to hold Division Contests

Division G International Speech and Evaluation Contest @ Cowlitz County PUD @ 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM Cowlitz PUD, Vancouver, WA

## MAY

**1**

Start: Beat the Clock membership-building program

**6**

6:00-9:00 PM Craig Valentine pre-conference workshop, Lane Community College, Eugene, Oregon

**7**

District 7 Spring Conference: Leading the World, 8:00 AM – 6:30 PM Lane Community College, Eugene, Oregon

**21-22**

Directors Retreat - Aldersgate, 7790 Marion Road SE, Turner, OR Starts at noon on the 21st, ends at noon on 22nd

**31**

Due: corrections to second round club officer training reports

End: second-round club visits

Due: second-round club visit reports

# Meet Balraj and Join Our Meeting

Free - All Are Welcome



**3:30 pm—Doors open for conversation and light refreshments**

**4:00–5:30 pm—Babble-On Club Meeting**

**5:30–6:00 pm—Conversation Continues**

[Register Today](#)

Presbyterian Church of Laurelhurst  
935 NE 33rd Avenue – Portland  
Visit the club [website](#)

**1st VP Balraj Arunasalam, DTM**  
**Babble-On Toastmasters Club**  
**Sunday, May 8, 2016**

**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL

## Join Us!

Celebration & Open House  
April 28th 6:30-8:30pm



**Oregon City Brewery**  
1401 Washington Street  
Oregon City, OR 97045

Light Dinner Served  
No Host Bar  
Humorous Speeches

[pam@changeforthehealthofit.com](mailto:pam@changeforthehealthofit.com)





# PERSPECTIVES

## Just Clowning Around by Shannon Milliman

When I was four I went to my first rodeo in Burley, Idaho with my grandparents. It was this fateful day my opinion of clowns was formed. Unbeknownst to me, the rodeo clown knew my grandma. He selected her from the crowd for some silly scarf trick antics knowing she would be a good sport. There could be nothing more terrifying in a young girl's mind than her grandmother being abducted by a creature with a hula hoop in yellow, oompa loompah pants.

Recently, a new Toastmaster friend explored her adventures in clowning in a speech-yes, the horn honking, juggling, red lipped variety. What struck me most about her interpretation of what it means to be a clown was the focal point that love is a clown's key motivator. Even the clown at the rodeo chose my grandma because he loved her. He knew a perfect fried egg maker when he saw one. Love is why I choose Grandma and why I wanted so certainly to know this foreign creature had no ill intent.

A clown shows love through exaggeration. It is this concept that I believe we can all apply to our speech craft. You craft a speech. You deliver it. You receive feedback and you might make revisions. Knowing that the feedback you receive is anchored in love just like the clown's intent you repeat the process. Dun, dun, dun....you are a clown! You practice the same techniques over and over. The juggling, the scarves, the running into walls-- the vocal variety, the stage blocking and the body movements. Practice refines the technique into art that has the power to influence and move. Clowning and speech craft are cousins. Recognizing this there is something very valuable you can employ to

your speech craft from recognizing what clown craft includes. This element is exaggeration.

You practice the same things over and over.

Consider adding the art of exaggeration to your rinse, lather repeat process in speech craft.

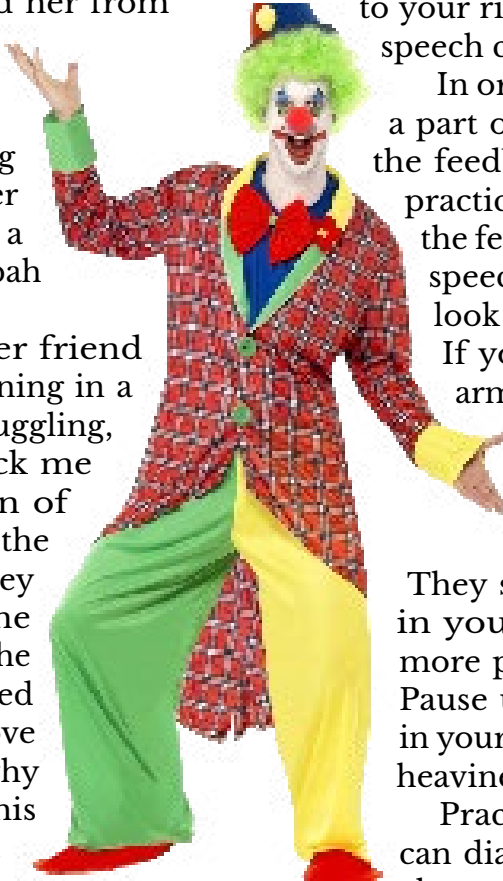
In order to apply exaggeration as a part of your tool arsenal listen to the feedback you receive and upon practice exaggerate application of the feedback you get. Practice your speech so over the top that you look like a clown giving a speech.

If you are told you need more arm movements exaggerate arm movements, even include leg movements. Use your stage like you are at the circus, working the crowd!

They say you need more pausing in your transitions. Give them more pausing. Go so slow it hurts. Pause unnaturally. Feel the words in your mouth and body. Feel their heaviness and their lightness.

Practice extremity, in time you can dial it back but going through the exercise of exaggerating your speech will give you new creative ideas where you can create humor and vitality that you would not have stumbled upon had you not been wearing your metaphorical big red shoes. You will find your mold and not another toastmaster's patterns. Through exercising exaggeration, you will reconnect with the clown mindset that love will enable you to deliver through new perspectives.

*Shannon Milliman joined Toastmasters in 2013 and is a member of Competitive Speakers PDX.*



# JOURNEYS...

## Spotlight on Thrill of the Quill

By Alexis Mason, DTM



If you regularly read the Spotlight columns in Voices (and I hope you do), you have noticed that each month features a different and very interesting member of our awesome district 7. This time, however, our attention will turn to one of our several niche clubs.

Thrill of the Quill has been in existence for about ten years. It originally met at Frog Pond Church after district meetings, which generally occurred every month, except for conference and TLI months.

The name of the club was suggested by Lee Coyne. The purpose was to be in support of those members in our district who were interested in writing, either as blog writers, technical writers for their work, poets, writers in all genres, and people who had put writing in one of its various forms on their bucket list.

The format of the club meetings has changed little over the years. There are prepared speeches which are always manual speeches, of course. In recent years, the club selects themes for the year during the club success plan meeting, generally held in June. The first speaker of the day speaks to that theme and the other speakers may, too, but those speeches don't necessarily follow the theme. The first speaker also serves as Table Topics Master. During table topics, the members write for ten minutes on the topic assigned, which is connected to the theme of the meeting. After the writing period, each member reads what they produced during the ten minutes for round robin feedback.

The feedback portion for the speeches is slightly different as well. Each speech has an assigned evaluator who completes the evaluation in the speaker's manual. Each member also provides oral

feedback. The evaluator facilitates those discussions.

Lots of writing and lots of opportunities to speak and provide feedback make for fascinating meetings.

The group meets monthly in Vancouver, Washington. Something else you may find very interesting. The main group is always available to help members in other parts of the district set up their own writers' club. They would be satellites to The Thrill of the Quill. They would pay dues to the main club and meet when and where they wish. Toastmasters International requires clubs to meet a minimum of twelve times a year. Thrill does. The club meets the first Saturday of each month except for conference months. Then it meets the second Saturday. The meetings run from 9:30 to 11:00 in the morning. Guests are encouraged.

If you are interested in forming your own writers' club, the members of Thrill are ready and excited to help you. Please contact Alexis Mason ([Alexis@AlexisLLC.com](mailto:Alexis@AlexisLLC.com)) for help in getting started.





# Tell Me A Story

The Brick  
by Curtis Low,

A very good friend of mine once told me, “You never step in the same stream twice”. Not long ago I experienced this for myself walking in SE Portland. The neighborhood I was in became increasingly familiar. I pulled out my trusty phone and checked Google Maps. As I surveyed the screen I realized I was 2 blocks from Waverly Children’s Home. That infamous red brick building from my past which prompted the question, “When are they coming back?”

Do you remember Pink Floyd’s song, “The Wall”? For years I built and maintained a wall behind which I felt safe moving through life on my own. I related to the lyrics of the song, though I never really understood my affinity for it until I was about 21 and had really started to learn about myself, who I was and where I came from.

When I was 10 mos. old, a mere baby. My biological mother brought me to Waverly Children’s Home and dropped me off. She didn’t want me. At age 2 I was adopted from Waverly by the Lows, whose name I still have. My dad was an angry brooding alcoholic, my brother, 8 years older than I, was almost never around. My mother. . .my mother was the glue that held us all together.

When I was 10 years old, my adopted parents brought me back to Waverly for what I thought was a “visit”. I spent the whole day playing with all of the kids there. I had a great time. We played tag, a couple of board games, and shot some pool. Around 5:30 it started to get dark and they began setting the table for dinner. More than a little worried, I looked for an adult. I recognized a lady who had been particularly nice to me all day. Sorrowfully I asked, “When are they coming back?”

She got down on her knees before me, and placed her hands on my tiny shoulders. Looking into my confused eyes she told me, “I’m so sorry Curtis, your parents are not

coming back. You get to stay with us for a while.” I was crushed. Waves of; fear, anger, guilt and shame washed over me. I decided at that point, if I was going to do this thing called life, I was going.to.do.it.on.my.OWN! I would never trust anyone ever again.

I began to build my wall.

Back in SE Portland, I continued to walk. Looking around the neighborhood there was an internal battle raging inside of me that I could not ignore. On one hand, I ranted at myself “I’m no longer a child! Besides, it’s just a building!”



On the other hand, I tell myself reasonably, “It was a very pivotal point in my life, I wonder if it’s still there. And what if any feelings are attached to the building itself?”

I made up my mind. I had finally had it. I decided I needed to take action. I control my life now, NOT my past.

I began walking through a neighborhood which was hauntingly familiar, and yet, so different from how I had remembered it. As I walked, I searched the web for “Waverly Children’s Home.” I found a blog that stated the building was slated for demolition. The date on the blog was August 2011.

Feeling a surge of panic, I opened Google



maps and selected, “Satellite” in the layers dropdown and POW! There was a huge dirt lot where Waverly used to be! I was floored, I would never get to see that red brick building again! I rounded the corner and was greeted by all of the trees that lined the street like old, familiar friends.

Nearing the clearing where Waverly used to be I was saddened to see there were already 4 or 5 houses in the last stages of construction. I was bewildered by what was before me. I had been hoping to see the red brick building I had called home for 2 years with the long sloping sidewalk where we rode our skateboards.

There was a sharp turn at the bottom you had to navigate just right or you would slide off into the grass if you were lucky. If not, you probably ran smack dab into the large oak tree at the end of the ramp. There was this raised bit of sidewalk which was lifted by that same oak tree. One summer, I jumped that lip with my skateboard. It shot out from under me. I flew through the air and landed hard on my back. Oh the memories!

But that’s all gone now. The lot has been leveled, there are new houses being built over my old memories. And then it struck me. Life moves on, it is very fluid like a stream. Flowing, ever changing. . . revealing new choices, new opportunities for growth.

As I wandered the area I noticed a pile of red bricks of which the building had been made. I saw a construction worker nearby

and called to him, “Hey, can I have one of these bricks!?” Turning, he saw me, and shouted back, “Sure go ahead!”

As I dug through the pile I thought, “I want the perfect brick, one that means something, one that calls to me.”

I found it.

I reflected on the change in the landscape around me. The people who would eventually live in those houses would never know the laughter that had filled the air or the tears that had flowed from sorrowful eyes. And that’s ok. I had no overwhelming emotion attached to this place, it had no power over me. Some faint, fond memories, but I too have moved on in my life. I’m a different person now. Much the same as the landscape on SE Woodward has changed, so have I.

Today I am a stronger, independent-yet social person-with a lot of friends I hold dear to my heart. I tried for so many years to do it all on my own and that clearly doesn’t work.

And this brick. . . this brick will always remind me where I came from. But more importantly, where I am today.

Like the final song says, “I don’t need no walls around me!”

*Curtis joined New Horizons Toastmasters in 2013. He is currently serving as the club president. This story won second place in the area 94 contest on March 15, 2016.*

# Leading the World

Lane Community College • Eugene, Oregon

Friday May 6, 2016 - 7-9pm\*

## Make Your Message Matter Championship Coaching



Join Craig Valentine (the 1999 World Champion of Public Speaking) and get the top tools to keep your audiences on the edge of their seats and persuade them to take your next desired step. Whether speaking to an audience of 1 or 1000, you will pick up tools to...

1. Hook your listeners into your presentation from your very first words
2. Turn your presentation into profits
3. Motivate and influence your audience to take action when you are finished
4. Craft, deliver, and sell your message effectively
5. Present in a confident, assured, and engaging manner
6. Make your message memorable
7. Breathe life into your presentations, bring your audience to you, and build a message that sticks!

This is one interactive presentation you can't afford to miss. Build your confidence and your competence and have lots of fun in the process!

# \$25

\*6-7pm Appetizers & No Host Bar Included

**CENTER**  
for Meeting & Learning

**MAIN  
CAMPUS**



## District 7 Toastmasters Spring Conference

Lane Community College  
Center for Meeting and Learning  
4000 E 30th Ave, Eugene, OR 97405

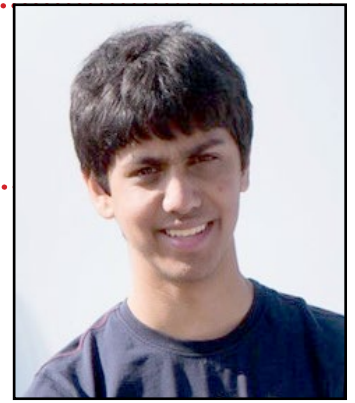
Register at: <http://d7toastmasters.org/spring2016>

---

# Improving through Practice

Feroze Hasan, VP Education

---



As a Gavellier, I have learned a lot. I have had the luck to be a member of Future Stars since the age of 12. Currently I am 16, an avid member, and the Vice President of Education of for my club.

Ever since I was young I was 'gifted' in a way. I was able to speak my mind when I wanted to and wherever I wanted to. I would never formulate my ideas. I always said things in English using the wrong words. This may have been because English was a second language for me. It may also have been because I did not read many books. Whatever the reason, I needed to find a solution to my problem.

When I first heard about Toastmasters I thought this would be a waste of time since I could speak in front of people very easily. I tried to convince my father to pull me out. I begged and pleaded with him that I did not need to be in Future Stars. He told me that this would not only improve my speaking but would be beneficial in other aspects of my life. I thought my first speech was great however I made simple mistakes.

My evaluators told me that, while I had lots of confidence, I needed to improve my language skills. I said 'an' when I needed to say 'a' and I said "me and my friends."

I realized that over time I could improve. I spoke as often as I could. My Toastmasters coaches, Tahseen Mohamed, Eric Winger, and Marc Bettinger, helped me improve my English exponentially.

I feel as though the Toastmasters program has truly helped me to become the great speaker I am today.

*Future Stars is a group of middle and high school-aged kids that meet once a week to work on developing their communication and leadership skills through meetings that include prepared speaking, impromptu speaking, and meeting facilitation. They applied for and received Gavel Club status from Toastmasters International in 2015. To learn more about Future Stars and what they offer, please visit their [website](#).*

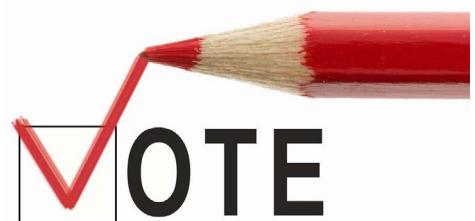
---

## Club Elections - First Meeting in May

Clubs that meet weekly may elect officers annually or semiannually. If the club elects semiannually, elections are held at the first meeting in May and again at the first meeting in November. Clubs that meet less frequently than weekly must elect officers annually, with the elections in May. Annual office terms must run from July 1 through June 30; semiannual terms run from July 1 through December 31 and January 1 through June 30. Holding elections at any other time is in direct conflict with the Club Constitution and Bylaws.

A quorum (51 percent of active members) is needed to conduct club business, including electing officers. Proxies or absentee ballots are not allowed at the club level. Members must be active and present to vote.

When your club has elected new officers, the current president or secretary should submit their names and contact information to World Headquarters online through Club Central.



# Opportunities For Growth Workshops

Leading from where you are to where you want to be  
Attend and gain invaluable insight from motivational speakers and authors!

FREE ADMISSION

Abundant Life Church  
17241 SE Hemrich Road  
Damascus OR 97089

6:00-7:00PM

Visit [www.growthopportunities.webs.com](http://www.growthopportunities.webs.com) to register for the event  
Event sponsored by Noon Talkers Toastmaster Group



Mike Wiley  
April 12th - 6-7pm  
**Leading Through Spirit**

A Life Coach, Pastor, and Motivational Speaker shares why it's never too late to embark on the journey to become the person you are called to be.

[disciplinedlifecoaching.com](http://disciplinedlifecoaching.com)



Linda Cohen  
May 10th - 6-7pm  
**Leading Through Kindness**

A Professional Speaker and Author who will share how engaging in acts of kindness both in a personal and professional setting can literally change the course of your life.

[lindacohenconsulting.com](http://lindacohenconsulting.com)



Dottie Love  
June 14th - 6-7pm  
**Leading Through Relationship Barriers**

A Motivational Speaker that will be sharing how to have conversations to overcome barriers that lead to healthier relationships, stronger bonds and meaningful interactions with family, friends and co-workers.

[dorothyelizabethlove.com](http://dorothyelizabethlove.com)

# District 7 Toastmasters



Date: March 23, 2016

To: Michelle Alba-Lim, District Director

From: Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM - District Executive Leadership Chair

**RE: District Executive Leadership Report**

Enclosed is the District Executive Leadership Report for 2016-17 which includes the following documents:

- 2016-17 Nominated Candidate Table
- Nominated Candidate Statements (per email response dated 2/11/2016)
- Nominated Candidate Officer Agreement and Release Forms

Per the instructions for reporting results of the Committee, the following steps are the responsibility of the District Director:

*The district governor [director] submits the report in writing to all members of the district council as soon as possible and at least four weeks before the annual meeting on the district website and/or in the district newsletter. The notice of meeting must also be included.*

Report prepared by:

Phyllis A. Harmon, DTM

Executive Leadership Committee Chair

cc: Leanna Lindquist, DTM

Erik Bergman, DTM





# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: District Director



Leanna Lindquist, DTM  
Candidate for District Director

I am proud to be nominated as your next District 7 Director. My leadership experience in and out of Toastmasters and the support and encouragement of my mentors have prepared me to assume this position.

I will strive to:

- Create an atmosphere of excellence in our District
- Inspire and motivate team members to achieve their goals
- Promote the importance of achieving individual goals
- Plan for the unintended consequences of a dues increase and the disappearing grace period
- Work with team members to create an achievable District Success Plan and a responsible District Budget

You can count on me to work rapidly to bring the newly elected Trio members together as a unified team. Meeting the needs of our members will be our top priority in 2016-2017.

Biography:

Area Governor

Division Governor of the Year, 2013

District 7 Public Relations Officer

Lt. Governor Marketing

DTM 2012, 2015

Toastmaster of the Year 2012, 2015



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Program Quality Director

Donna Stark, DTM  
Candidate for Program Quality Director



I didn't seek out Toastmasters. It found me twelve years ago when a coworker recruited me, and 19 others, to start a new Toastmasters club in Eugene. I will be forever grateful to that coworker for starting me on my personal Toastmasters journey, yet what really excites me is seeing others grow through Toastmasters.

My Toastmasters experience includes holding most club officer positions, serving as the Area 35 Governor, Central Division Governor (President's Distinguished Division/Division Governor of the Year), and I'm the current Central Division Director. I have served on the District Nominating Committee, Club Realignment Committee, and as a Revitalized Education Program Ambassador. I have been a new club sponsor and mentor, and have developed a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Toastmasters program.

My home club is in Eugene, I belong to an advanced club in Portland, and I am a regular attendee of TLI and conferences. I attended my first International Convention in 2010. I consider the connections I've made with Toastmasters throughout the organization as one of the most valuable and gratifying aspects of being a Toastmaster.

Members thrive in successful clubs. The Distinguished Club Program is the foundation for club success and it starts with well-trained club officers. Quality training opportunities for club officers and members will be my top priority.

In my professional life I have fifteen years of supervisory experience in a municipal government setting, with multiple priorities and competing deadlines. Maintaining successful working relationships has been a key factor to success.

I've gained more from Toastmasters than I ever imagined possible, and look forward to helping others grow their leadership skills, speaking skills, and confidence through the Toastmasters program. It would be an honor to serve District 7 as the Program Quality Director. Toastmasters – Where Leaders are Made!



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Club Growth Director



Cathy French, ACB, ALB  
Candidate for Club Growth Director

I am Cathy French of Referrals Unleashed, a Life & Business Mentor, and A Certified Networker. I have authored Educational Seminars, Sales Programs and Articles. Toastmasters has helped me hone my mentoring skills, improve communication, facilitating and listening skills.

My background includes: Music Teacher, Salesman and Sales Director for Coast to Coast Campground System Nationwide, Director of Finance- 5 tiered Corporation, Certified Bookkeeper and Independent Owner of Lighthouse Bookkeeping and Referrals Unleashed

**Volunteer:** Director & Member of BNI (Business Networking International), included starting BNI Chapters in Nevada including the Rural Areas, trainer for the BNI Member Success Program and Advanced Member Success, keynote Speaker for ABWA and BNI on Business Marketing and Referral Networking

**Toastmaster in Both Nevada and Oregon:** Capital Nevada, Siuslaw Tale Spinners and Coast Toasties (before they unchartered). Established a Coast Toasties website, Facebook page and Linked-in group page. Established Tale Spinners Facebook page and Contributor, attended District 7 Conference as Coast Toasties representative -Fall 2013, attended TLI's and Conferences every year since moving to Oregon

**Area Director 2015-2016:** Wrote a number of public relations articles for the Umpqua Post & Siuslaw News newspaper

**Held Offices-** President , VP-ED, VP-Membership, VP- PR,

### Club Growth Director Plan

- Work with the District Public Relations person for entire district promotions.
- Brainstorming event with Division & Area Directors to get the Buy In needed from them to Charter new clubs.
  - Delegate effectively- Northern District- count on those that are successful already,
  - Other portions of the state- talk directly to the people there. Find the Leaders in those areas and ask for their help
- Access needs of the Divisions and Area's within- create a set of goals for each with the buy in from the Divisions
- Create a schedule and Identify the Leaders.
- Communication- What communication plan works best for them. Phone/email/Facebook, etc.



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Club Growth Director

- Using the TM Teachings, I will listen actively, watch body language (when face to face), be emotionally intelligent.
- Inspire and Motivate- Using what I have been mentoring – I will help them find the passion they have for toastmasters. Why are they here, why do they keep coming back. Using that passion show how to ask others to share that passion and develop their own (Thereby recruiting members).
- New Target markets to hit, eg:
  - Law Students- Need to speak articulately to be effective, they must stand out as leaders, and need to think on their feet.
  - 18 year old High School Students- getting ready for college.
  - Coaches- Point out to the Business coaches that Toastmasters can help their clients:

Ways for our present members to ask for new members:

1. 4 ways to silent recruit
2. How to Listen for openings in a conversation to ask for a referral for membership  
Eg: How can I help you
3. Work with VP- Membership and PR
4. Plus, Plus, Plus.

**Help the District 7 Attract more Members and Charter Clubs through Referrals**

**Passion + Referral Networking = Club Growth**

**Facilitating +Marketing +Resources = Club Growth**

**Communication + Buy In = Club Growth**

**My experience growing networking clubs and training businesses to grow through referrals = Club Growth**

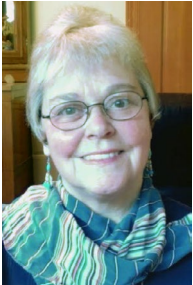
**Your Passion & My Passion for Toastmasters**

**Can only end one way---- District Growth**



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division A Director



Nena Heitz, ACB, ALB  
Candidate for Division A Director

I “rejoined” Toastmasters in Grants Pass on February 1, 2014. I had initially been in the Coastmasters Toastmasters Club in Lincoln City, Oregon in 1993/94 and had earned my CTM, for which I still have my certificate and ribbon. I was then known as Nena Scuderi. It was an enjoyable experience but we moved several times and I did not become involve with Toastmasters again until I retired in Grants Pass.

Most of my life, I had worked as a bookkeeper/accountant but also was owner or co-owner in several small businesses. My last position of full time employment was at Southern Oregon University as Director/Administrative Manager of Rogue Valley Community Television on campus. I taught not only the general public but Ashland High School video production classes, negotiated contracts with multiple government and businesses for televised programs, supervised those programs, wrote and maintained the budget for the television studio and supervised staff and student employees. When my job position was eliminated in June, 2011, I began volunteering at Wildlife Images Education and Rehabilitation Center in Grants Pass for two+ years. That was when I returned to Toastmasters.

In my first 5 months, I attended meetings regularly and on May 2ath, published the first GP TM Club 852 Newsletter. Except for when I’ve been out of town, I have created (as of March 2, 2016) 89 weekly Club Newsletters which contain a summary of the weeks meeting, a list of the roles people signed up for for the following week, education pieces and announcements of upcoming events such as Open Houses, Speech Contests, Conferences and Officer Trainings, along with a philosophical thought for the week.

I was elected Vice President of Education, to begin July 1, 2014 and continue until June 30, 2015. Toward the end of the year, I assisted our then Area Governor with doing Club Visits, as she was unable to do them. During this time, I also earned my first Triple Crown Award for completing my CC, CL and ALB. I also was given the Toastmasters Outstanding Member pin.

July 1, 2015, I not only became the President of Grants Pass Toastmasters Club 852 but also became the Area 21 Director. I made my first round of Club visits before the program was completed on the website for reporting them and had to wait two weeks to enter the information. My second round of Club visits were done by the end of January this year. I am nearly completed with my second Triple Crown Award (ACB, ACS and second CL). I assisted in putting together the Officer Training for Division A and am the Chairman for the Division A International and Evaluation Contests on April 2nd this year, as well as the two Area contests this fiscal year.



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division A Director

This next year, July 1, 2016 -June 30, 2017, I am on schedule to complete my ACG, ALS/CTM and third CL. I have found Toastmasters to be a wonderful organization, a lot of fun and I have made a lot of friends, as well as learned a lot.

I was asked to run for the Division A Director this next year -2016/2017. Our Division, as many Divisions, have some very strong clubs as well as some clubs that need help. I am hoping this is something, as Division Director, I will be able to help with this next year. Having co-sponsored a new club here in Grants Pass (Club Northwest Toastmasters Club #04923664 started October 2015) I feel I am able to support, assist and seek out new potential clubs in all three Areas in Division A. I am certainly willing to give it my best try to make that happen. I will want to stay in close contact regularly with my Area Directors and make myself available to them when my support is needed.

I know Southern Oregon is in need of an organized, strong, supportive person who can give the Areas/Clubs direction and I feel I am just the person who can do this and has the time and willingness to do this.

Thank you for considering my application as the Division A Director for the 2016/2017 fiscal year.



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division B Director



John Rodke, DTM  
Candidate for Division B Director

I am a Storyteller. The exchange of wisdom between individuals is beautiful, ancient, and essential to our modern lives. Toastmasters is where I have honed this craft for the last six years. I have had the pleasure to exchange stories with thousands of people through this wonderful organization.

I would be honored to bolster and encourage the sharing of stories by serving as Division B Director.

My speech filled, and wisdom adsorbing journey with Toastmasters has enabled me to earn my DTM, serve in the positions of Area 31 Governor and all club officer positions except Treasurer (future growth), and coach and charter clubs. I have learned and practiced the ways to create successful leaders and thriving club environments. I would like to share this wisdom with my Division and District. Using the educational materials coupled with imagination, motivation, and inspiration, I know we can improve the experience for the whole Toastmaster member spectrum. From veteran to rookie, if we challenge ourselves to take chances, set and achieve goals, and have fun along the way, we will THRIVE!

I am an Entrepreneur, mentoring businesses to improve communication and share internal tribal wisdom. I have a background in Project Management, Product Development, Mechanical Engineering, Industrial Construction, Sales, and Coaching. I am inspired by the “AHA” moments people have when they understand something new. I look forward to learning about, facilitating, and perhaps creating those moments for Toastmasters throughout Division B and District 7.

I invite you to work with me to share wisdom filled stories, and bring your ideas to life.



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division D Director

David R. Johnson, ACS, ALB  
Candidate for Division D Director

Biographical sketch

My name is David R. Johnson.

I joined Moser Community Toastmaster (formerly Columbia Center Club) #9521 in 2009 for a couple of reasons. One was to improve my speaking and presentation skills for my new position as a Product Manager at a local software company in Portland, Oregon. Having grown up in Chicago, IL and recently moved from San Francisco, CA, my other reason was to meet new people.



With the support and guidance of the members of my club I made good progress on both goals and looked towards ways I could help others to speak, lead and grow, so I ran for and served in a number of club officer positions from 2009 through 2015, and then as a district officer.

- 2014 - 2015 District 7 Area 52 Division Governor
  - Achieved President's Distinguished Area
  - Worked with fellow Governors to achieve Distinguished Division for Division D
- 2015 - 2016 District 7 Division D Director
  - Focusing our efforts to build new clubs and help all clubs achieve excellence
  - Giving Area Directors opportunities to lead
  - Planning to achieve Distinguished Division for a second year

Roadmap for 2016 - 2017

Goals for the year are to be Presidents Distinguished Division and to support the District so it will be a Presidents Distinguished Division

This means a greater focus on new club growth. This is one aspect I plan to grow into more. There are one or two opportunities that started in the current year that I think will come into fruition during the coming term. I also plan to inspire more club members to find leads for new clubs.

These will provide learning experiences on the new club lifecycle.

To ensure the members of the Division Council are supporting all clubs to be successful, I plan to have monthly Division Council meetings, online or in person with Area Directors. Goals are to have a smooth transition between old and new directors and start the year strong.





# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division D Director

David R. Johnson, ACS, ALB  
Candidate for Division D Director

### Page 2

One goal is to have more officers of the area 51 trained during the first round, and also provide more relevant topics by inviting officers from other clubs in small communities to share their tactics.

This is one aspect of the “Small by Mighty” promotion to help clubs in more rural area receive more tools for success and are recognized for their accomplishment.

There is a need for standardized communication to the clubs regarding milestones for DCP goals, member renewals, contest season planning so I plan to incorporate these into a calendar shared with the Area Directors.

Finally, I plan to find a successor and train them so they can continue the momentum we will have built up by then.



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division E Director

Emilie Taylor, CC, CL

Division E Director

I'm honored to be nominated as a candidate for Division E Director.

I found Toastmasters when I needed it the most. It has taken me out of years of darkness of grief and sadness after losing my son. Toastmasters gave me an opportunity for personal growth where I could step out, step up, and step forward back into the world. It helped me say yes to volunteerism, personal growth, and transformation. I know this is all volunteer work, but such volunteerism has completely changed my life. Every speech I had delivered, every role I volunteered has grown my speaking skills and improved my leadership skills. It helped me learn better communication and negotiation skills. Toastmasters has given me renewed optimism. Hence, my desire to continue serving as a district officer and pay it forward.



I bring a combination of unique perspectives to this position. My professional and volunteer experiences have given me the opportunity to work closely with different organizations. As a former state supervisor for grants administration and liaison for federal grants in Washington, DC, I learned to work with many special interest groups. As a former program coordinator for crisis intervention, I learned how to deal with difficult situations, think on my feet and develop listening skills that carry forward in the role as a Division Director. More recently, in my capacity as an Area 65 Director, I visited all 6 clubs on a regular basis. I learned that each club has unique challenges and opportunities for growth. It forces me to be creative in finding solutions. I am a dedicated and tireless supporter of the mission of Toastmasters.

My vision is to see Division E continue to grow and attract new members. I would like to build on past achievements and successes and to find creative ways to help clubs that are struggling become places where members are excited and inspired. I would like to see monthly area directors' meetings continued. It is important that area directors are supported and acknowledged for the work that they do. These meetings also allow the space to tackle issues such as generational differences among members in which gaps must be bridged. By working closely with Area Directors, my hope is that we find ways to uplift and help the clubs that need it the most and put shine on the clubs that are doing well and acknowledge their efforts. Sharing successes will certainly benefit the rest of the Division and ultimately, the District.

Thank you for your consideration.



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division F Director



Dottie Love, ACB, ALB  
Candidate for Division F Director

### *Building stronger Toastmasters clubs... by elevating members*



Change-agent. Implementer. Motivator. Author. Those are my passions. I've spent the past 15 years cultivating those talents to offer organizations effective ways of increased sustainability. Since joining Toastmasters in 2013, I've created a program, **C-Suite Success**, that infuses techniques to accelerate achieving Toastmasters Education Awards in order to elevate members and, in doing so, strengthen clubs. This has already proven beneficial to District 7 members. *Dorothy O, a member at the 2016 TLI event, noted, "I'm new to Toastmasters and was ready to quit until I heard Dottie Love and got her packet on how to 1. Make a plan 2. work the plan 3. get success."* For Division-F plan, I plan to train my Area Directors on how to deploy **C-Suite**. My motivation is to help transform how we train area leaders in supporting clubs.

**Division F Director  
Candidate 2016-2017  
District 7**

Dottie Love  
ALB, ACB

#### **Toastmasters Highlights:**

- Triple Crown Achiever 2015 & 2016
- Area Director 2015-2016
- Vice President of Education 2014-2015

#### **Other Volunteer Highlights:**

- American Cancer Society
- Harvard Business School, Community Partners Program
- Home 'Word' Bound (homes for the underprivileged)



# 2016-17 District 7 Candidates

## Office: Division I Director

Joe Polk, ACG, ALB  
Candidate for Division I Director



My desire for the High Desert Division is to continue to solidify our foundation of “pay-it-forward” with increased communications via multiple sources; Internet, network venues and good old fashion face to face. Toastmasters excel at the face to face.

We will continue to build and grow and keep the “Pay-it-forward” train in high gear!

# Are You Connected?



## Keep current on District events

This book was distributed courtesy of:



For your own Unlimited Reading and FREE eBooks today, visit:

<http://www.Free-eBooks.net>

*Share this eBook with anyone and everyone automatically by selecting any of the options below:*



To show your appreciation to the author and help others have wonderful reading experiences and find helpful information too, we'd be very grateful if you'd kindly [post your comments for this book here](#).



### **COPYRIGHT INFORMATION**

Free-eBooks.net respects the intellectual property of others. When a book's copyright owner submits their work to Free-eBooks.net, they are granting us permission to distribute such material. Unless otherwise stated in this book, this permission is not passed onto others. As such, redistributing this book without the copyright owner's permission can constitute copyright infringement. If you believe that your work has been used in a manner that constitutes copyright infringement, please follow our Notice and Procedure for Making Claims of Copyright Infringement as seen in our Terms of Service here:

<http://www.free-ebooks.net/tos.html>



**FREE**  
eBooks



WHOEVER  
WHENEVER  
WHEREVER  
YOU ARE

# INSTANTLY DOWNLOAD THESE MASSIVE BOOK BUNDLES

CLICK ANY BELOW TO ENJOY NOW

## 3 AUDIOBOOK COLLECTIONS

Classic AudioBooks Vol 1 ■ Classic AudioBooks Vol 2 ■ Classic AudioBooks Kids

## 6 BOOK COLLECTIONS

Sci-Fi ■ Romance ■ Mystery ■ Academic ■ Classics ■ Business