

Headquarters' Headlines & Happenings

Leaders of the Pack

Contestants for Founder's District's quarterly Leader of the Pack award for Area and Division Governors ranks all of the areas and divisions based on the Distinguished Area Program criteria.

The First Quarter winners in the Area Governor category are:

- 1st Place: Area G3 Governor, DARRYL TAHIRAL ATMS, CL
- 2nd Place: Area C5 Governor, CHRIS GREGORY, DTM
- 3rd Place: Area F1 Governor, NEEL SIROSH, ACB, CL

The First Quarter winners in the Division Governor category are:

- 1st Place: Division E Governor, SHELLEY ALONGI, CC
- 2nd Place: Division G Governor, STEPHEN HENDRICKS, ACG, CL
- 3rd Place: Division C Governor, BARBARA BARRIENTOS, DTM

Are you a member of one of these areas or

divisions? If so, you and your club helped your Area Governor break out of the pack by working your club's DCP plan. Each Quarter brings a fresh, new opportunity for all to succeed in meeting their goals. Your area or division could have bragging rights as consecutive winners!



Left to Right:

Area C5 Gov, **Chris Gregory**, DTM
 Div E Gov, **Shelley Alongi**, ATMB
 Div C Gov, **Barbara Barrientos**, DTM
 Area F1 Gov, **Neel Sirosh**, ACB, CL

Working together we can achieve our District goals by working on our clubs' DCP plans. Get more info at fdcomments@gmail.com.

First Half District Goals				
	Total Clubs	Mbrshp	CCs Goal	ACs Goal
2nd Quarter Goals	209	4300	116	80
As of 11/16/07	180	3544	80	37

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Set The Stage Now For Success In 2008

The holidays are upon us and our lives have just shifted into serious overdrive! With the holiday 'hustle and bustle' happening in our personal lives, it's easy to move Toastmasters off of the calendar and into next year

— but let's not be tempted.

December is bringing us a sleigh-full of Toastmaster opportunities. It's time for club officers elections. This is your opportunity to help lead your club to DCP goal achievement. Being a new Toastmaster shouldn't stop you from jumping into a leadership position. And, whether you have held previous positions or are a first-timer, plan to attend club officer training in January.

Do you belong to a club that has a lot of members and you can't speak as often as you would like? Many club members will be going on vacation so ask your Area Governor to arrange for you to speak at other clubs. It's a wonderful experience.

Have you been complimented about how well you '**Speak, Lead, Achieve!**'? Believe it or not, you are a role model! Why not take a friend to your club so they can see and experience how you did it. Do you have a family member or a friend that it's hard to buy a gift for? Pay for their club membership — any investment in a person's growth is a great gift!

Let's not forget January, that wonderful month of resolutions that most of us don't keep. So instead of setting the bar so high that we are bound to fail, why not keep our goals achievable? Individually, you can increase your speaking to once or twice a month or work in your Competent Leadership manual. As a club, work together on your DCP plan and set monthly goals to achieve. Set the stage now to achieve these goals, and more, June 30, 2008.

From my home to yours, may you continue to **Speak, Lead, Achieve!** Happy Holidays!

Alanda Dyer, District Governor, 2007-2008

Website Tune-Up Tips

Bob Hudack, DTM

Increase readership, page focus, layout success, and loading speed by considering and implementing these tips when you create websites for your clubs, Division or Area. Pay special attention to the first tip — your audience! These tips can easily be utilized for your business, clients or family needs even though they are framed here for Toastmaster readers.

1 Consider your primary audience and the purpose of that audience. Your audience is mostly your Toastmaster members. Non-members don't know and don't care about Districts, Divisions, and Areas. Members are most frequently visiting your website to find information about the next important events. Make those links easy to find.

2 The top part of the home page is valuable real estate! Don't waste it by putting secondary information there. Do you really expect Toastmaster members to want to read your mission statement - and then reread it every time they visit your page? Use that top part of your home page for the most frequently needed information.

3 Notice that the Headquarters website at www.toastmasters.org has "Member Quicklinks" that are easy to use, and just a link to the mission statement for easy accessibility. Check out Amazon's, Boeing's, Microsoft's home pages.

4 Use HTML on your pages as much as you can. It loads faster because it doesn't need a helper application. An example page is <http://members.cox.net/bhudack/tm/DivCTrainingFlyer.htm>

5 HTML is the preferred format online. If you do need to keep a true page appearance, use Adobe PDF format. Modern Macintoshes can easily create pdf documents. For Windows users, if you can't afford Acrobat, try <http://www.primopdf.com/> for free creation of PDF files. Foxit is a smaller, faster pdf reader than Adobe. Get it at http://www.foxitsoftware.com/pdf/rd_intro.php

6 Use Word or Excel only when you know your intended audience has those applications, or you want someone to edit the file.

Have fun posting your information on the world-wide web!

BOB HUDACK, DTM
Founder's District Lt. Gov.
Education & Training





Do You Have A Building Plan for 2008?

Gregg Van Citters, DTM

Why plan to build membership in your club? Because every Toastmasters club can expect an average member loss of 1 per month. Don't wait for the next dues renewal period to find out you lost 6+ members since October dues were submitted! Plan to recruit at least 1 member per month to sustain your membership level; more if you want to grow.

Now is the time to begin planning your membership events and drives for 2008! Toastmasters International provides you with regular membership contests around which you can tailor your club programs.

Contests Build Membership

"Talk Up Toastmasters" is a club contest. In 2008, it will begin February 1 and end March 31. You'll have an extra day to compete in this contest — it's a leap year! The Individual Sponsor Contest runs all year.



Help your members achieve their leadership goals:

- Make your membership drives a High Performance Leadership project
- Recruit a committee of members to help plan and execute your events
- Offer a continuing education course through your city's extension service
- Order Speechcraft materials
- Plan an open house each quarter to showcase your most talented speakers and evaluators
- Allow 6-8 weeks lead time to implement your publicity plan!

Spend time during the next 6 months planning to succeed and executing your building plan. You will end the year with enough members to keep your club healthy and thriving!

Gregg Van Citters, DTM
Lt. Governor Marketing

Got Ideas or Comments to Enhance Founder's District?

Norm Cook, DTM

Members of Founder's District may make suggestions to be incorporated into the Founder's District Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual. The APP Manual is a reference handbook to guide the workings of the district. The procedures outlined in the APP Manual are based on the authorizations and requirements of the District Administrative Bylaws. They incorporate the administrative practices that have evolved into recognized standard procedures. The APP Manual may be viewed on the district website.

APP Manual Comments Are Due

The comment and proposed revision submission deadline December 30, 2007. The District Administrative Policies & Procedures Committee periodically reviews the Manual & recommends updates. Send to Norm Cook normcook@mac.com



LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATION EDUCATION TRAINING

LACE

Mark your calendar for these quickly approaching January 2008 dates!

LACE - South - January 12th - National University in Costa Mesa

LACE - North - January 19th - Rio Hondo College in Whittier

2008 Make-up Dates Are:

Division C Jan 28 (Mon)

Division B Feb 9 (Sat)

Division D Feb 2 (Sat)

Division E Feb 9 (Sat)

Division G Feb 2 (Sat)

Division F Feb 13 (Wed)

Tall Tales Trump Trip's Thrill!

Daniela Arellano

My phone vibrated in my left pocket as I laughed at the Tall Tales speech contestant on stage. I tried to dismiss the vibration, but decided to quickly glance at my phone to see who was calling. It was a text message from my friend Eva. "We're shopping at the Cesar's Palace boutiques. We wish you were here." I quickly put the phone back in my pocket as I continued listening to the contestant.

Five of my closest college friends were spending the weekend in Las Vegas, celebrating a year since we were there for our college graduation trip. The thought of shopping in Las Vegas sounded tempting, however, I was excited to attend my first Founder's District Fall



Conference.

This year's conference theme, "Shaping Ourselves, Shaping Our World," featured inspiring keynote speaker, Richard Snyder, enlightening workshops, stimulating speech evaluators, and entertaining contestants. We spent the day at the edge of our seats laughing and enjoying the captivating tall tales. This conference was also a special day for me because I established new friendships. It turns out I have a lot in common with these new friends, and I now realize the po-



tential for us to collaborate on future Toastmasters endeavors.



The Most Wasted Day of All

French writer, Sebastien-Roch Nicolas Chamfort once wrote, "The most wasted day of all is that in which we have not laughed." My day was certainly not wasted considering how much I laughed during the Tall Tales Contest! Even the workshops had a humorous flair that made learning more enjoyable for all attending.



I received another text message from my friend Eva, as I was getting into my car to head home after the conference. She let me know they were about to have dinner at the same restaurant we went to last year, and it immediately brought back fond memories. I knew my friends were having fun in Las Vegas without me. I would not have spent my day any other way! I'll look for YOU at the next event!

DANIELA ARELLANO
Public Relations Officer 2007-2008



Passport to Destiny

Celly Feraren Adamo, DTM

Are you different from the person you were when you first joined Toastmasters? What differences do you notice? You had the courage to take on club leadership positions: Toastmaster, General Evaluator, VPE, or Club Officer. Were they growth experiences for you? How much are you learning now? If you were looking for growth when you took on the challenge, you realized that the learning experience was tremendous. You are contributing to club success and district success. If you feel that you received value from these experiences, you could step forward and enhance your leadership skills. Former Club Presidents or VPs Education could step into mentoring and motivating as an Area Governor or join the Executive Teams. Former Executive Team leaders could step into the District Officer positions.

How Do You Become a District Officer?

There are two ways that to become involved with the District Executive Team: (1) you can be elected to one of the District leadership elective positions at the Spring Annual Business Meeting; or, (2) you can be appointed to a position, noted below,

by the Incoming District Governor.

Elected Positions:

- District Governor
- Lt. Governor Education and Training
- Lt. Governor Marketing
- Division Governors for A through H

Elections will be held at the Founder's District Business Meeting, Saturday, April 26, 2008.

Appointed Positions

- Public Relations Officer
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Area Governors
- Support team positions and Sergeant-at-Arms

Call for Nominations

Nominations for the District Executive Team, including the positions above, are being taken n-o-w. Descriptions of the above positions and the Nomination Forms are available on the Founder's District website, at www.foundersdistrict.org. Submit completed forms to cfadamo@foundersdistrict.org.

When you participate in Toastmasters leadership positions, you will find that your experience enhances your career and personal life as well! Step into leadership today. It's a passport to your destiny!

Celly Feraren Adamo, DTM
Immediate Past District Governor, Nominating Chair, 2007-2008

Identify Success with 3 Questions

Katharine Ellison-Fazekas

"Were you entertained? Were you inspired? Were you educated?" Just before the final conference curtain, the District Governor posed these questions. These are the critical questions asked by any Toastmaster when assessing a presentation's success. This audience answered each question with a resounding "Yes!" and pounding applause.

How could we have answered otherwise? In each of the areas his questions addressed, our cups had overflowed. All day we had been repeatedly startled into delighted laughter and moved to appreciative applause. We were inspired by the obstacles overcome by presenters who stood before us. Others revealed their struggles through their stories. One and all they moved among us, triumphant; empowered and empowering, inspired and inspiring. These masters of mentoring produced a full feast of nurturing nuggets.

I saw members who functioned most effectively, most gloriously, as all parts work together for the good of the whole. Conference-goers tapped their potential and created more possibilities. I experienced a conference that could come only from a commitment to caring and sharing. I was happy to be able to attend this awesome event -- just a week after I became a member!

YOU Be The J-u-d-g-e!

Unique opportunities are available to take professionalism and impartiality into local communities. Organizations receive support throughout the year for their speech and debate competitions from the Founder's District Community Relations Committee Judges Bureau.

Some events require a few judges at a time – others require 150 JUDGES per event!! The team of judges has a full calendar of events to pick and choose from. Contact Avis French at eavis@sbcglobal.net

TOASTMASTERS

What's YOUR Legacy?

Belinda Sanders

Think about it....people that have left a great legacy to our world had a vision of what they wanted their life to look like, and action steps put in place to make that happen. A few examples of legacy-leavers are: our United States Presidents, Charles Lindburgh, Dottie Walters in the world of businesswomen and professional speakers, Marie Curie, Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Henry Ford, and Ralph Smedley.



Intend to Make Your Vision Your Reality

Ask yourself these questions and give them good consideration when you set your action steps. What vision do you have for your life? Why do you want your vision to transpire? Who do you need to work with to make it happen? When will you know you have attained that vision? How will you overcome obstacles or threats that could impede your progress? Crafting your vision....in writing....answers the above questions. Does yours? If not, review and recreate it now with those points in mind. When you do, you'll notice a positive shift in how you value and execute necessary action steps to make your 2008 legacy a reality.

What Pack Will YOU Lead?

When you apply this to your speaking and club vision, you'll be the leader of your own pack! Doesn't it look easier to attain? When you THINK about your vision and the legacy you'll leave, you complete the beginning stage of the attainment process. When you INK it on paper your chances of making that vision a reality will skyrocket! Begin framing your vision today. There's no need to wait. Begin now, and if you don't.....well....you'll get up in the cold darkness to fumble with paper and pen. You won't sleep a wink – until you cast your intended legacy in writing. Will you be in the 97% pack who create it and then dream about it, or the 3% pack who create and execute their vision? Ready? Set....GO!

BELINDA SANDERS works with people who want to propel planning or passion into profit with easy strategies and create balance between work and home. Receive *The ABCs of Business Writing* or *The ABCs of Delivering Great Presentations* when you subscribe to the ezine at www.BelindaSandersConsulting.com. You may quote portions of this article when you include <http://www.BelindaSandersConsulting.com> as the distributor and copyright holder or BELINDA SANDERS as the author. You may share this article when this bio box is attached and entirely included.

THE FOUNDER

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