

The **FOUNDER**

The Founder's District Quarterly Newsletter

SUMMER 2009



YOUR 2009-2010 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Congratulations to the new district leadership team, elected at the Founder's District Conference on April 25th.

Your 2009-2010 team:

District Governor– Maira Pineda, ACS/ALS
Lt. Governor Education & Training–Ede D'Angelo, DTM
Lt. Governor Marketing– Victoria Bakker, ACB/ALB



Ede Ferrari-D'Angelo Maira Pineda Victoria Bakker

Conference
photos
on last
page

Your Leadership Team

Bob Hudack DTM

District Governor
bob@foundersdistrict.org

Maira Pineda ACS/ALS

Lt. Governor Education & Training
maitaiti@yahoo.com

Mary Berg DTM

Lt. Governor Marketing
mary.berg@foundersdistrict.org

Ede Ferrari-D'Angelo DTM

Public Relations Officer
ferrari.e@sbcglobal.net

DIVISION GOVERNORS:

- A Daniel Cossack, ACB/CL
- B Chandra Persad, CC/CL
- C Frannie Stein, ACB
- D Randy Garcez, ACG/CL
- E Kris Krishna, ACG/CL
- F Ryan Durkin, ACB/CL
- G Jeanne Cassidy, ACS/CL
- H Elisa Heredia, CC

Photo to right: **Ladies**, L-R: C. Persad, E. Heredia, F. Stein
Men, L-R: R. Garez, K. Krishna, R. Durkin, D. Cossack
Missing: J. Cassidy





Join the fun, Sunday, June 7th, 11 A.M to 6 P.M.

Founders District will sponsor a booth and you will have the opportunity to tell 30, 000 attendees about the benefits of membership in Toastmasters.

Sign up at: <http://creator.zoho.com/emanno1/chili/form-perma/Volunteers/>
or, contact Erik Martinson at 714-412-1529 eman_no1@yahoo.com

“Are We There Yet?”

Maira T. Pineda, Lt. Governor Education & Training

“There will come a time when you believe everything is finished. That will be the beginning.”
-Louis L'Amour, American author

With only a few weeks to go until the end of the Toastmasters year (June 30th), it's easy to start acting like the end is already here. You know what I mean: the thoughts about not submitting a particular Communication or Leadership award until next term; the justifications for how or why we can't or won't attain a particular educational goal for ourselves or a Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goal for our clubs; the cancellations on our meeting roles or officer commitments (aside from health, family, or work situations, of course)...

While we may know all the reasons why this may happen, what would happen if we were *un-reasonable*? Forget the logical, sensible, rational explanations for missing out or skipping over. Forget being comfortable with whatever we've completed up to now. Forget for a moment what we *feel like* doing or not doing. Just belonging to a club sounds somewhat unreasonable to some people: We challenge the notion that “no one volunteers anymore”! We try to master communication skills! We dare to accept leadership positions! Remember that it's an amazing privilege to learn in a supportive environment, to explore our leadership potential with a willing team, and to try on new ideas with a curious audience. If we truly leverage the Toastmasters benefits, we insist on being unreasonable!

Re-read what L'Amour tells us: when you think you're at the finish, you're really at the beginning:

MEMBERS: At the beginning of the year, what did you set out to accomplish by the end? Who in your club or community can help you achieve the next step toward your objective? Even if you've completed one goal, you're not done yet! A Toastmaster is always looking ahead to a new start – so start now!

OFFICERS: At the beginning of the year you may have intended to be at 10 DCP goals by now but came upon a few turns in the path. So what! Does every member know your DCP progress and what to do next? Are you working to transition your new leadership team into a good start to next year? Don't wait for someone else to act – take the lead now!

MENTORS: At the beginning of your assignment, you and your mentee committed to reach certain targets. Have you really hit the bull's-eye? It's more likely that there are items to re-visit, adjustments to make, or a new direction to try. If your initial assignment ended, have you taken on another? Your club needs your special communication and leadership talents for a successful finish. So make that extra call or send the extra email, re-focus your aim, and reach out now!

Whether you are “the go-getter type” or one who prefers a slow and steady pace, your contribution to this Toastmaster year as a speaker, leader, volunteer, and courageous change agent isn't quite finished. Will it take effort, excitement, and creativity to be unreasonable? Yes! Will our actions bring personal development and professional success? Yes! Will all of this bring transformation to our communities? YES! We're not at the end of our year yet – but even if we were, it's just another beginning...!

Club Programming – Your club’s Heart and Soul

When new members think back to why they first joined Toastmasters, it’s because they came to a meeting and liked what they saw. They were welcomed at the meeting. Someone explained what they were about to see. They saw good programs and immediately recognized the value of Toastmasters.

Most of our clubs have excellent programming, however some clubs have weak programs, which is a cause of low membership and poor attendance. How? When one sees an unplanned meeting, it looks as if no one cares enough to try. Why bother attending a meeting like that?

Toastmasters is interesting when the members are striving to achieve goals. Since we all help each other via mentoring and evaluations, the spirit of achievement is conta-

gious. Even in a tiny 6-member club, if one manual speech is delivered each week, you’ll have 50 speeches at the end of a year. That’s 4-5 Competent Communicator awards. Put differently, that’s 2 bragging points in the Distinguished Club plan. And certainly a club working hard enough to get 4 CCs in a year will appeal to visitors. Then you’ll have more members and more fun.

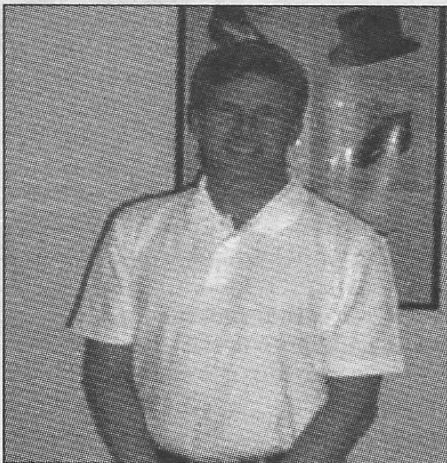
Your club’s programming is its heart and soul, what makes it different than every other club in the world. Nurture it carefully by looking for interesting materials in the Toastmasters catalog, searching online for meeting ideas, and visiting other clubs.

Bob Hudack DTM
District Governor



Published in the Independent Newspaper for Anaheim and Buena Park.- Submitted by Mike Russo of the Buena Park Table Talkers Club.

A Toastmaster’s Moment of Truth



By Jonathan Dawson
FOR THE INDEPENDENT

As Toastmaster participants, most of us are preparing for that “Moment-of-Truth” when we’re

asked to speak for that anticipated occasion. Whether a marriage, funeral, college graduation, or that special moment when we’re asked to say a few words, many of us know that Moment-of-Truth will come.

Well, my day came! I was fortunate to be part of a promotion process that included 600 fellow managers. I was given 20 minutes to present an impromptu speech in front of six of my company’s vice presidents and ten of my peers. My moment was a “do or die,” one-time opportunity to promote my abilities to the vice presidents and my peers. Thanks to the members of the Buena Park Toastmasters Club, I received a highly coveted and highly visible promotion within my company.

I remembered all the Toastmaster pointers: eye contact, voice projection, and gestures. And most importantly, with the elimination of stage

fright, I was able to deliver a confident and compelling presentation. As I have not yet excelled to my desired speaking potential, I am confident with my regular attendance I will soon reach my goals.

With special admiration for all the members of the club, I shared with everyone at my work and friends how my Toastmaster’s family played an instrumental part in accomplishing my monumental task. I just wanted to share my thoughts with all you, and hope when your Moment-of-Truth comes it will be as fruitful as mine!

Jonathan Dawson is a newer member of the Buena Park Table Talkers Toastmaster Club. The above is a testimonial as to how Toastmasters gave him the tools to deal with a moment of truth, and also played an exceptionally large part in Dawson receiving a coveted position in his company.

Steadily Growing

Victoria Bakker- Lt. Governor of Marketing-Elect

Have you ever sat there, maybe you were stuck in traffic or waiting to pick someone up at the airport, and asked yourself "...I wonder what I can do to help spread the word about Toastmasters..."? Of course, word of mouth is the best way to spread the word, but there is another way - a way that will also help you to reach your goals of becoming a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM).

And this way would be to help start a new Toastmasters club! So far this year, Founders District has chartered 7 new clubs with two more in the works to charter before June 30th (yippee!!), but unfortunately, we've also lost a few (sniffle, sniffle). Organizations will grow stagnant if new clubs and new members aren't brought in - we need the fresh blood to keep going.

So, how can this benefit you, the member? Well, as I mentioned, this is a great chance for you to earn credit towards getting your DTM. You need to be a New Club Mentor, a New Club Sponsor or a Club Coach (for clubs who are struggling and might need some guidance) and two of the above mentioned three positions are done through building new clubs.

Helping to build new clubs can also help you grow your communication skills - after all, you have to *sell* Toastmasters to others who may never have heard of our organization. You also get the chance to network with other people, Toastmasters and non-Toastmasters. And the most important aspect, at least to me it is, you will LEARN!! Knowledge is the best way to navigate in life and helping to build a new club is a great way to learn new and exciting information.

If you're interested in becoming a New Club Sponsor or a New Club Mentor, or if you're interested in attending a training session for either of these two positions, please contact Gerald Fleischmann at gerflash@socal.rr.com.

And finally, I want to wish a warm welcome to the members of the 7 new clubs:

1126127 - Siemens Cypress 1289433 - Quote Masters

1230335 - City of Orange Mighty Mouths 1302045 - Panda Express

1269641 - Hogle-Ireland Toastmasters 1314386 - OCTA Transit Talkers

1271256 - Los Angeles Speakers of Irvine

Welcome, thank you and good luck with your future endeavors!!

2009 REGION II CONFERENCE

"Building Bridges to a Brighter Future"

June 11-13, 2009

Marriott Airport Hotel, 1770 South Amphlett Blvd. San Mateo CA 94402

http://www.region2tm.org/downloads/registrationform_09tm

"The unprepared speaker has a right to be afraid." Dr. Ralph Smedley

Thinking Positively – Invite Guests to Toastmasters

Times are difficult for many of us at this juncture in our lives. People are losing their jobs, homeowners are losing their homes, and our 401Ks have dropped to 101Ks. I personally know three members of Founders who have recently lost their jobs and I'm sure we have more. In addition, if you have not been affected by the economic crisis, I'm sure you know others who have been.

I know it is very difficult for some to have a positive attitude during these times. Last November, Celly (my wife and past District Governor) and I went on a 7-day Caribbean cruise chartered by Bob Proctor, one of the major contributors to the book/movie, *The Secret*. Bob Proctor and others discussed the Law of Attraction whereby we attract what our subconscious mind is telling us. Do you recall Abraham Lincoln's secret? He said, "We are what we think." If we think poor, we will be poor. That's why some Lotto winners lose their fortune within 3 years. Consciously, they were rich with all that

money; however, subconsciously, they never changed their paradigm. They were still poor. On the other hand, even if you are poor (or you have lost your job, home, or financial security), if you believe you are wealthy, you will become wealthy. Even though Chris Gardner, played by Will Smith in *Pursuit of Happiness*, became homeless, he never gave up his dream. "You got a dream... You gotta protect it. People can't do somethin' themselves, they wanna tell you you can't do it. If you want somethin', go get it. Period." This is the power of the Law of Attraction, but you need to believe.

We in Toastmasters are, or are in the process, of becoming positive thinkers. Not only do we become better communicators and leaders—essential when competing for employment, but also we have the opportunity to build or re-gain our confidence. If you have lost your job, your home or your financial security, remain positive and remain in Toastmasters. Regretfully, some members have not renewed their memberships because "they are too busy looking for employment or saving their home." Some say they cannot afford Toastmasters anymore.

I say, they cannot afford not to be in Toastmasters. Where else can you practice interview style questions than by participating in Table Topics? Where else can you practice your speaking and listening skills than by being a speaker or an evaluator. Where else can learn to be an effective leader than to participate in a Toastmaster meeting?

You may have been fortunate enough not to be affected by the economic crisis, but I am certain that you will know someone who has been. Reach out and invite them to Toastmasters. Help them to shift their paradigm from negative thoughts to positive thoughts. Not only will they learn communications and leadership skills, they will be surrounded by positive thinkers.

Frank Adamo ATM-B/ CL

FS Adamo Enterprises
(714) 408-9287
frank@fsadamo.com



Did you know ...

You can update your own contact information online? Visit www.toastmasters.org and click "My Profile" on the top menu bar.

The supply catalog is downloadable? Visit <http://www.toastmasters.org/NonNavigableDocs/CatalogPDF.aspx>

Founder's District was born in 1944, and is the only district in the world without a number?

THE MISSION OF THE DISTRICT

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

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

Communication Tools Are Changing. Are you?

The world's communication tools are changing. What are you doing to learn about them? What is your club doing with them to recruit and retain members? Podcasting, blogging, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube are just a few of the tools being used by an increasing percentage of the adult population. Yes – **adult** population. The largest group of users joining Facebook is people over 30.

This communication revolution is important for you to know about. You are a Toastmaster. You are part of an organization that promotes effective communication. Although these on-line tools will never completely replace our need for one-on-one interaction, they are important for you to understand. Why? Because they have given us another forum through which we can reach out to others. This is a dynamic time to be a communicator.

Toastmasters is our communication learning laboratory. It can be your forum to learn about the on-line tools. Today, most clubs have a website. This wasn't the case just a few years ago. So what's next? Podcasting segments of a club meeting? It's already happening. Check out <http://speakeasyclub.freetoasthost.net>. Is your Club

The world's
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them?

holding an Open House? Did you Tweet it? Capital City Toastmasters Club is using Twitter to promote itself while educating its members about using the micro blogging site. Take a look at <http://www.capitalcitytoastmasters.net/> Does your club have a blog? The Founder's District website does at www.foundersdistrict.org as does the Latin Leaders Club at www.latinleaders.org Are you familiar with YouTube? You can see Toastmaster content at <http://www.youtube.com/user/Toastmasters>

To get familiar with the new communication tools start observing. Go on-line and see how other Toastmasters and clubs are using these tools. Get your club excited about this. Encourage speeches about how members are learning and using technology. In a speech titled "How I Faced Facebook" I shared with my club what I learned when setting up my Facebook page.

Ask your Club's website committee to explore adding a blog to the site. Video a member giving a speech and post it to YouTube. Then link to that video from your club's website. (Note: Remember to get the member's approval, in writing, whenever you're posting information or images of him/her.) Imagine how impressed a prospective member will be seeing a club website that features a brief video preview of the meeting. Imagine the prestige your fellow club member will feel by being featured on the website. What a great way to increase retention!

Communication tools are changing. Are you?

Submitted by Kelly Teenor, DTM, PDG

Ever Hear of

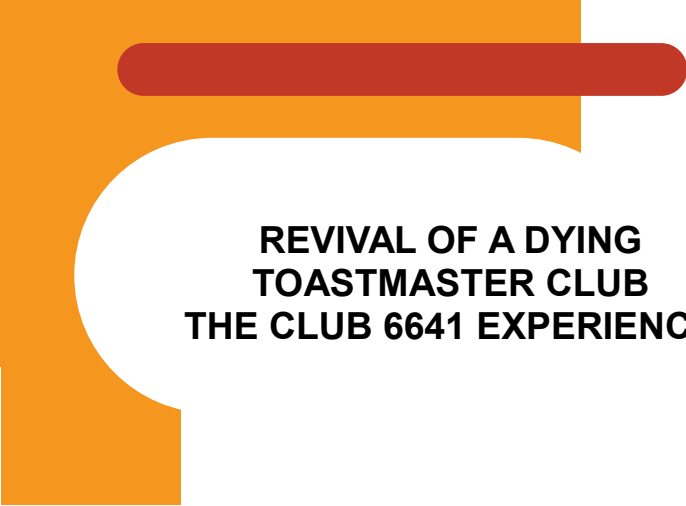
The Roy D. Graham Award

The Roy D. Graham Award is given in memory of Past International Director, Roy D. Graham DTM. Roy was a life-long Toastmaster member, having been a member for over 50 years and is credited as having created and implemented the Speechcraft Leadership Program for Toastmasters International. This award has been given out since 1987 and was originally designed to help promote attendance at the conferences. The award is given out twice a year; once at the Founder's District Fall Conference and at the Founder's District Spring Conference. The recipient of this award is the Area Governor who has the most members in their Area registered and in attendance at the conference. To be eligible to receive the award, the Area Governor must be present at the District Council business meeting during the conference.

This years winner– Carolyn Bramlett, Area F-3.

The Gene Beckwith Memorial Award

At the Founder's Fall 1981 Conference, the Gene Beckwith Memorial Trophy, through the generosity of Dr. Tom Kuramata and the members of Westwinds Club #2436, was established. It was also established at that time that annually or semi-annually the current District Governor is to select the Toastmaster in Founder's District who best exemplifies the humor, wisdom and leadership qualities of Gene Beckwith, DTM, PDG. The first recipient of this award was Roy D. Graham, DTM, PID. **This year's recipient– Lauren Kelly, DTM, PID**



REVIVAL OF A DYING TOASTMASTER CLUB THE CLUB 6641 EXPERIENCE

Like the mythical Phoenix rising out of the ashes, Toastmaster Club 6641, in Huntington Beach, California, managed to make a transition from a dying club to a distinguished club, in less than six months. In October of 2008, Club 6641, in Founders District, area C-2, was struggling, with only the minimum six members in the club. One of the two veteran members had an onset of health issues that forced him to drop out of the club.

At that time, the club was meeting twice a month, noon to 1:00 pm on Tuesdays. From the second meeting of November 2008 through the first meeting of January 2009, all the meetings had to be canceled due to only one person showing up at the meeting. For all practical purposes, the club was dead. Even the club president did not think the club would be viable.

Fortunately, the club started to revive at a LACE meeting in January 2009. After discussions with the club president, three Founder's District officials decided that they would make special efforts so that the club could be turned around. Those officials were:

Wes Hoover, ACG, CL, Division C
Governor

Barbara Barrientos, DTM, District
Speechcraft Committee Chairperson

Richard Elliott, DTM, District DCP
Goals 7 & 8, New Members, Chairperson

It was decided to make the following revisions to the club:

- * Think of the club as a new club with five new energetic attendees, rather than a dying club with four out of six members never attending
- * Change the meeting frequency to every Tuesday
- * Put on a good show, with energetic, high quality meetings every time, regardless of the number of meeting attendees
- * Start the club doing everything the right way, on time, with manual speeches, effective evaluations and good Table Topics
- * Have all club members participate in the Competent Leader program
- * Increase the public relations and marketing effort for the club
- * Have an open house for the club on February 24
- * Change the club name to Huntington Beach Toastmasters
- * Schedule three speeches per meeting.
- * Streamline the agenda and meetings
- * Use prepared introductions for speeches
- * Conduct a Speechcraft when five additional members joined

Although the transformation was not instantaneous, the process worked. The first meeting of the "new" club was on January 27, 2009. By February, the club was having powerful, energetic meetings, and newcomers were joining. The club managed to get enough new members to have six active members renew by the March 31 deadline. On April 14, the club had three guests attend, and all three guests joined. That gave the club 11 active members, an increase of 5.

Combined with the other DCP goals the club met, the club had met the qualifications to become distinguished for 2008/2009. A speechcraft program is scheduled for May 19 through June 23. With the new members giving frequent speeches and performing leadership roles, it is anticipated that the club will be presidents distinguished for the 2009/2010 Toastmaster year.

John Muse, ATMB/ CL

And the winner is...



Table Topics winner, J Massey, with Intl. Director, Mary G. Russell



Intl. Speech Contest winner, Carl Walsh, with District Governor, Bob Hudack and Intl. Director, Mary G. Russell

News from the PRO Ede Ferrari-D'Angelo DTM



Kudos to Lt. Governor of Education and Training, Maira Pineda, and her conference team, for a great spring confer-

ence. A huge thank-you to co-chairs, Lauren Kelly and LaVerne Leonard who did not stop working all day, except to eat lunch (I hope they ate).

The morning began with one of Carolyn Bartlett's wonderful inspirational moments, and a warm welcome from District Governor Bob Hudack.

Three workshops were offered to attendees, covering topics from leadership to a discussion of the millennial generation, and ending with three goofy guys who just happen to be fabulous speakers, offering tips on how to be humorous.

International Director Mary G. Russell spent some time with us explaining the changes to the organization that will be put before the membership for a vote at the International Convention, in August. Mary is a dynamic and energetic speaker, and gave us all a clearer

vision of the future of Toastmasters.

Julie Evans, CEO of Project Tomorrow, received the Toastmasters Communication and Leadership Award at the Hall of Fame Luncheon. By a wonderful coincidence, her presentation about the millennial generation complimented the workshop given by Kelly Teenor and her panel earlier in the day.

The luncheon was made even more fun as the Division Governors became the official "ribbon runners", delivering ribbons to those present who achieved educational and leadership awards this past year. And of course, we cannot forget the DTM hug line! Linda Ulrich, Harry Yan, and Victor Andreson are our newest DTMs. Congratulations.

The big events of the day were the Table Topics Contest and the International Speech Contest. The question put to the eight contestants by Contest master Donna Smith, was "The theme of today's conference is "change you, change your world. How are you going to change yourself or your world this year"?"

There were eight very creative responses, however only three trophies. They went to: J Massey, first place, Gowri Madhavan, second place and Judy Tejwani, third place.

The International Speech contest, the capper to an already great

day was hosted by Contest master Maria McHolland. Again, we were treated to eight great speakers, all of them using a combination of inspiration and humor to deliver some powerful speeches. Third place was won by Kimberly Wade with her speech which asked 'When is it Okay to Lie'? Second place went to Otis Archie who told us that "A Change is Coming". The top prize and the trip to San Mateo, to compete at the Region conference, was awarded to Carl Walsh for his speech, "The Miracle of Now".

Two special awards were presented by District Governor, Bob Hudack—the Roy D. Graham Award went to Carolyn Bramlett for being the Area Governor with the most members registered and in attendance at the conference. Past District Governor, Past International Director, Lauren Kelly received the prestigious Gene Beckwith Award, given to the Toastmaster in Founder's District who best exemplifies the humor, wisdom and leadership qualities of Gene Beckwith, DTM, PDG.

During the business meeting, the new district leaders were elected...see page one for details.

It was a perfect day...can't wait 'til the next one...and I get to plan it!

2009 District Conference



Bob Hudack, Carl Walsh, Mary G. Russell



Newly Elected Division Governors



District Governor-Elect,
Maira Pineda



Bob Hudack, Otis Archie, Mary G. Russell



Bob Hudack & Lauren Kelly, Gene Beckwith Award recipient



Judy Tejwani and Mary G. Russell



International Speech Contestants and Toastmaster, Maria McHolland



Jim Raney and Maira Pineda