

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

The Founder

www.foundersdistrict.org

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

SEPTEMBER 2013

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District Leaders

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President's Citation



**Founder's District:
The Birthplace of Toastmasters**

WELCOME THE FOUNDER



Marie Hulett, Editor in Chief of *The Founder*, with her dog, Kody

Near the end of May this year, our Founder's District PRO, Daniel Cossack, approached me with an idea. He wanted to know if I would serve as the new Editor in Chief of *The Founder*.

"It won't take much time at all," he persuaded. "The newsletter only comes out quarterly, so you're really just looking at one-two weeks per quarter."

Hmmm. That didn't sound overwhelming in the least. Furthermore, there was already an amazing team of editors and writers who would be involved that would make this project a cakewalk, so I decided to accept the position.

Of course, anyone who has ever accepted any kind of volunteer position should have immediately seen red flags.

Sentences that use words like "only" or "just" can really be translated into, "Brace yourself—you probably won't be sleeping much over the next year!" I think Daniel would make an excellent used car salesman! (No offense to any members who happen to be used car salesmen!)

All kidding aside, I am really thrilled to be the new Editor in Chief and to be working with the amazing publication team that has been assembled. There is a great spirit of creativity that flows through each team member and I truly believe we will deliver the news and information you want, and stories that you'll enjoy, in a fun and entertaining fashion.

I encourage budding writers to submit articles via their Area Governors and Area News Writers. We want to know all about your successes, your challenges, and your goals. And don't forget to sprinkle your words with a little humor—I am a firm believer in FUN. We don't need Sgt. Friday from *Dragnet* reporting our district's news.

I am also hoping to take our news letter into a more "Green" direction. Every month, we will have a brief electronic edition, and then on a quarterly basis, we will compile the highlights from each month into our grand quarterly edition. Though we'll concentrate on an electronic delivery system for both editions, we will make a few hard copies available for folks who are not equipped for online reading. To more accurately determine how many hard copies to print, please let your district leaders know if you prefer killing trees and overloading landfills...just kidding; we all know that electronic delivery does not work for everyone. However, we do need an accurate tally for printing purposes so please give us a quick shout out.

With that said, I bid everyone a warm welcome to *The Founder*. I look forward to your comments and suggestions. Feel free to drop me a line at: mhulett@coastline.edu.



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

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Harry Yan, DTM
Founder's District Governor

Founder's District has four top officers. They are District Governor, Lt. Governor of Education & Training, Lt. Governor Marketing, and Public Relations Officer. Let's get to know our officers for the 2013-2014 Toastmaster year.

How long you have been with Toastmasters? I have been a Toastmasters member for 11 years.

Which clubs do you belong to? I am a member and the founder of the FCBC FV Speech Club #870344 and a member and advisor of the Irvine Lunchtime Toastmasters Club #219.

Where do you work? I worked for the Fluor Corporation (an international engineering and construction company) for 32 years as an engineering programmer analyst, a project systems engineer and an information technology project manager before moving up to an enterprise systems manager at Conexant Systems (a semi-conductor design company) in Newport Beach. After retiring, I taught public speaking part time at Dr. Choi's Academy in Irvine until Dr. Steven Choi was elected Mayor of Irvine.

What are your hobbies? I enjoy taking photos of special events and vacation places and creating photo collages, slide shows and digital movies with

photos and video clips. I also enjoy studying and teaching the Bible. I have taught children and adults in Sunday school for more than 40 years. I especially enjoy collecting, rewriting and telling inspirational stories that touch the heart and convey a powerful message.

How has Toastmasters enhanced your life? Toastmasters built up my confidence to speak in front of a group. It enhanced my skills to effectively share my ideas and inspire people to work together toward common goals and objectives. The experiential people skills and leadership skills I gained from working on the Toastmasters program in my club and serving our members in various District offices helped me cultivate quality relationships and opened many opportunities to make an impact on the lives of others. I was able to see how I impact others and how others impact me, and this has immensely enriched my life.

What do you look forward to or hope to achieve this year as District Governor?

My vision is for Founder's District to be the top District in the world. This is in line with Toastmaster International's vision to "be the first-choice provider of dynamic, high-value, experiential communication and leadership skills development." To get there, we must sustain a net gain in membership and new clubs year after year. We can do this by empowering our leaders to maintain quality clubs and ignite their passion to lead by giving them the tools, the examples and the experience to discover and meet the expectations of our members as well as the skills to build new clubs in their communities and in their workplaces. When we consistently work together and lead with a passion to enrich our own lives and the lives of others, we will be the top District in the world. This is altogether fitting because we are Founder's District—the birthplace of Toastmasters.

What is your favorite quote? My favorite quote is "When you learn, teach. When you get, give." It serves as a reminder for me to seize the opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others. This is so important because our lives are not measured by how much we have, but by how much we give. Our significance comes from the positive, lasting impact we make on the lives of others.



Linda Ulrich, DTM
Lt. Governor
Education & Training

***How long you have been with Toastmasters?** 14 years*

***Which clubs do you belong to?** I belong to San Gabriel Valley, Club 200; Le Gourmet, Club 317; Past District Governors, Club 407; Edison Loquacious, Club 3364; WildChatters, Club 1205085; San Gabriel Valley Wine & Dine, Club, Club # 3215028.*

***Where do you work?** I work for WorleyParsons in their Arcadia office. I am an engineering/construction scheduler for various oil and gas projects. I've been doing this for about 10 years.*

***What are your hobbies?** Bingo, grandkids, quilting, and Toastmasters!*

***How has Toastmasters enhanced your life?** I have found my voice. I could always speak up for others, but backed down when it came to me. Now I have confidence in myself and my abilities, and can express that to others.*

***What do you look forward to or hope to achieve this year as District Lt. Governor of Education & Training?** I want to help our members and clubs succeed. If members can meet their personal goals, or at least get closer to them, the club, in turn, will achieve its goals; the Area, Division, and District also succeed. But it really is all about the member! Since I'm responsible for the education and training of our members, our club officers, and District leaders, the LGET team will be working on various programs and incentives to assist members in enhancing both their communication and leadership skills.*

Favorite Personal Thought:

When we step out of our comfort zone, we realize there is more in the world for us to learn and more of us that we can offer the world.

Home of the first Toastmasters Club: The YMCA in Santa Ana, California



New Club Chairs

Kevin Graham, DTM
District New Clubs Chair

Division A: TBD
 Division B: TBD
 Division C: Jack Schmidt, DTM
 Division D: TBD
 Division E: Jennifer Elam, ACB, CL
 Division F: Bob Hudack, DTM, PDG
 Division G: John Barry, ATM



Pan Kao, DTM
Lt. Governor
Marketing

How long you have been with Toastmasters?
Eight years

To which clubs do you belong? *Club 9 Professional Speakers, Club 407 - Past District Governors Club, and Club 1246 Table Talkers.*

Where do you work? *I'm a professor and consultant. As an adjunct professor, I've been teaching online project management courses at several universities, including UCLA Extension, UCI Extension, Minot State University, and American Public University System. As a consultant, I manage projects and help organizations effectively navigating through their strategy processes.*

What are your hobbies? *I have three hobbies: Golf, golf, and more golf!*

How has Toastmasters enhanced your life?
The Toastmasters Program has made me a better project manager. That's why I have been promoting Toastmasters at the PMI (Project Management Institute) Los Angeles and Orange County chapters.

What do you look forward to or hope to achieve this year as Lt. Governor of Marketing?
At Toastmasters, we talk about communication all the time. However, one month into my term as the LGM, I've already felt the challenges in the organizational communication. There are so many opportunities in the Marketing Team that our members can learn and grow through volunteering. How do I communicate these opportunities to members and how do I match members' skill sets and interests to the opportunities will be my focus this year as the LGM. In other words, I want to apply the communication and leadership skills that I have learned to the LGM position.

We will also be emphasizing to all the Founder's District members how to build new clubs. It is especially important for the Area Governors to build at least one new club in their Area to become a President's Distinguished Area. For many of you who attended the Marketing Workshop on July 27, we included a session on this topic. There is a great resource on Toastmasters International website for just this purpose: <http://www.toastmasters.org/build>

Founder's District will be offering incentives to any Area Governor or Sponsor who charters a new club. They will receive two of the Darren LaCroix's popular DVDs. (Darren was the 2001 World Champion of Public Speaking.)

The reason why we want to build new clubs is to share the information and benefits we have gained as Toastmasters to others in our community. Help spread the word, and be sure to contact me or the new club chairs if you need assistance. We look forward to building Founder's District in 2013-2014!

Favorite Quote:

"The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches, but to reveal to them their own."

--Benjamin Disraeli



Siri Payakapan, DTM **Public Relations Officer**

How long you have been with Toastmasters: 7 years

Which clubs you belong to? Vineyard Journeys, Le Gourmet and Smedley Chapter One. (Charter member of Tools 2 Lead from 2006 until 2012.)

Where do you work? I retired in 2012 after working for 23 years as a Planner/Policy Analyst for the County of Orange. My responsibilities included managing the Orange County demographic projections for transportation modeling, housing and transportation policy updates. These complex, long-term projects involved extensive coordination with all Orange County cities, various public and private agencies and the public as well as project presentation to the Planning Commission.

What are your hobbies? My passion is traveling to gain real life experience in different parts of the world and to sample locally prepared cuisine. I also enjoy researching my family tree and bonding with my two grandchildren, ages 4 and 2, who live in Toronto, Canada.

How has Toastmasters enhanced your life? In 1969, as a guest at my father's Toastmasters club in Bangkok, Thailand, I was impressed by the members' friendliness and my father's newly found enthusiasm after his retirement. More than three decades later,

my daughter's ability to add humor to her technical presentations, from her Toastmasters club in San Jose, California, inspired me to join as a charter member of Tools 2 Lead Club at my work in 2006. Along the way, several mentors have challenged me to take up new responsibilities, stretching my Toastmasters perspectives and skills. In turn, I have served as a mentor to many. The mentoring experience deeply enriches my life. I gradually gained confidence in speaking skills and grew as a leader through leadership opportunities in the Founder's District. Toastmasters way of life perfectly fits my current phase in life—retirement—as a fun, life-long learning journey.

What do you look forward to or hope to achieve this year as the Founder's District PRO?

1. Publicize Toastmaster benefits to the outside community.
2. Inform members of Founder's District activities, events, and resources.
3. Use all available public relations channels (Founder's District TV, Founder's District website, and Founder's District newsletter) to inspire our members to become better speakers and leaders.

Favorite Quote:

"We learn best in moments of enjoyment."
--Dr. Ralph Smedley

The Mission of the District

**The Mission of the District
is to build new clubs and
support all clubs in
achieving excellence.**



Linda Brown
Executive Coach, DTM

Division A

On August 8, 2013, Division A Governor led the first Division A Council Meeting. About a dozen Division A leaders attended the meeting. The Division's Executive Coach, Linda Brown took the five Area Governors in attendance through a goal setting and success planning session. Linda shared with the Area Governors her life experience and the impact she was able to make when she had the opportunity to serve as Area Governor during the 2012-2013 Toastmasters year.

Linda has over 27 years of experience serving as an empowerment coach and life strategist. As it applies to serving in Toastmasters International as an Area Governor, here are some of the nuggets of wisdom she shared:

- **Work exclusively through club presidents.** Area Governors are the only leaders in the district who normally interact directly with club members. It is easy to get carried away and want to be as effective as possible by touching base directly with every club member or club officer. However, you can simplify your

tasks by creating an empowered relationship with your club presidents. If you provide caring, clear direction and support for your Presidents, they will take good care of their club members. You will see how directive leadership and teamwork synergize and produce greater-than-expected results.

- **Know when to ask for help.** Every single member of Toastmasters International is driven by very unique and oftentimes very different motives, but one thing all members seem to share is a desire to serve, to be of help. Leverage that at every possible opportunity, otherwise you can easily get overwhelmed quickly. The more you courteously direct, inspire, acknowledge, praise progress, empower, and recruit a Team (i.e., inspire team-building), the more effective you will be as a leader.

- **Find out what the club wants.** Every club has its own culture and tradition. As an Area Governor never criticize the way a club operates, if that is their tradition. Acknowledge the unicity of every club and find out what the club does well and compliment them on that. Be aware of the clubs' needs and wants, and do not impose your wants (or needs) on your clubs.

- **Don't fall victim to quotas.** Every district has set goals and targets to become the best in the world, which is a worthy ideal. Those goals are met when quotas are set and the division and area governors work with other district executives to meet those goals. Quotas can appear very challenging when you get fixated on them instead of abundantly meeting members' objectives. Like the saying goes, take care of your pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves. In other words, if you have thriving clubs in your area, the quotas will be met without you even thinking about them.

- **Take it easy and have fun.** Everybody around you in your Toastmasters circle wants you to succeed as a leader and an individual. Don't take the whole assignment too seriously and remember, if it is not fun, it's up to you to learn how to make it fun. Call upon your

Area Governor and Division Governor colleagues to brainstorm. Everybody wants the experience to be easier, more effective, and more fun. Why not make the experience a happy memory for you and those you have the privilege of serving?

Linda Brown is available for executive coaching and she can be contacted through her website: www.lindabrownma.com

*Submitted by Lionnel Yamentou.
Area E1 Governor / Division A Assistant Governor*



Jamie and Ryan Matsunaga

Division B

A few months before Division B Governor Ryan Matsunaga, ACB, ACL said “I do” to Jamie, his UCLA sweetheart, he must have had a pre-nuptial panic attack. It wasn’t a question of whether or not he was marrying the right person; it was whether or not he would be able to confidently deliver a speech to the wedding guests at the reception. Consequently he fulfilled a long-time desire to join Toastmasters so he could speak without a verbal confetti of ahs, ums, “you knows” and other aberrations of nervous speakers.

It was November 2009 when he joined Kaiser Toastmasters (#8735). Now he’s happily married to Jamie . . . and to Toastmasters. The man who said “I do” to his bride has also embraced Toastmasters and has said “I do” to every opportunity to develop his speaking and leadership skills.

Shortly after he joined, he assumed the most rigorous club role of all – VP of Education. Later he agreed to double as “acting” President when the President could not continue as an officer. Next he became President for a second term, and then smoothly segued to being Area B-3 Governor from 2012-2013. Now the man who says “I do” easily and often is Division B Governor. His chosen theme is “Rise to Greatness” which seems to define the trajectory he himself has been following, maybe since birth in a Kaiser hospital in Vallejo, CA.

Ryan is the personification of success enroute to greatness. He presides over the Division B meetings with effortless charm and grace. With touches of humor, he makes the meetings as much fun as a night at the Comedy Store. Meticulous in his personal appearance, he looks like he stepped out of the pages of Gentleman’s Quarterly.

He attributes all his leadership finesse to Toastmasters which he claims has given him more leadership opportunities than his full-time job at Kaiser. In addition, he values the personal rewards of mentoring others. More importantly, he has big goals and ideas. Foremost is to retain Division B’s status as President’s Distinguished. In addition, he’s developing ways to use Google Tools and Groups to keep the Division organized and connected. He also advocates the creation of an Advanced Leader Gold Award attainable only by serving the Division since filling all division roles is now a challenge.

There’s no doubt that Ryan is a heavy lifter. In fact lifting weights is one of his favorite activities. A person he greatly admires is Arnold Schwarzenegger, not because of his muscle mass, but because of the heavy odds and naysayers he ignored to succeed in a range of endeavors.

Clearly, Ryan is a person we can count on to raise the “barbell” and lead Division B to greatness, and it all started with “I do”, two simple words which promise commitment.

*Submitted by Chris Christman, DTM
Division B News Writer*



Jack Schmidt, DTM

Division C

“Best Practices” are ways clubs can achieve superior results. They are a benchmark of success. In Business, Science, Technology and Toastmasters Clubs, Best Practices ensure excellence. Best Practices are a self-assessment check list for being successful and becoming Distinguished.

What You Can Do: Use the following list as checklist to see how your club is doing. Discover what Best Practices your club can implement.

Have fun! What gets measured, gets done.

Have a Club website that is updated with the club's latest information on when and where the club meets, contact information, etc.. The club website serves as a central connecting link for guests, as well as members.

Make sure your club's information is correct on club's website and also on Toastmasters International website.

Have local club dues (working capital for open houses, awards, etc.) at least \$2 per month.

The club officers should have an Executive Board meeting with an agenda once a month with standing reports (Pres: State of the Club Report, VPE: Status of Distinguish Club Program, Status of CL Signoffs, VPM: Status of Club Membership and Renewals, Status of Mentor Program, VPPR: VPPR activities Report (optional report), Treasurer: Treasurer's Report. Clubs that meet once a month should have their Executive Board meeting at least on a quarterly bases.

Have a Guest Package with a welcome letter, an application to join the club, a Toastmasters magazine, Toastmasters brochures (#90, #101, #134, #1212) and a copy of *Features, Benefits and Value. Place these components in a pocket file folder.

Have a New Member package. It should at least contain a Welcome Letter, the *Ice Breaker Speech, a Mentor Request Form, *Distinguished Member Form, **Distinguished Club Form, **Membership Achievement Record, **Map of Service to Members, **10 Tips for Successful Public Speaking, **A Toastmaster Wears Many Hats.

The VP of Membership should orientate new members, using the New Member package

Vote New Members into the club. A formal induction into the club can also be used along with the vote.

Warmly greet guests. After the meeting, review club membership application with guests and show them what it costs to join the club, then invite them to join the club. Follow up with an email, telling them that it was great to meet them and ask them if they have any questions.

Give Awards to members who achieve their next level on the Communication and/or Leadership Track. Minimum – Give them a pin appropriate to their new level in front of the whole club. Other recommended awards in addition to the pin include a magnetic badge with their name, their new level, club name and number and an advanced manual of their choice.

Have a Club Mentor Program. Assign all new members a mentor for their first 3 (or more) speeches. Any club member should be able to request a mentor. The VP of Membership should maintain a tracking spreadsheet of club mentors and mentees that can be used as a report at the club's monthly Officers Executive Board Meeting. The VPE is a default mentor for new members until a mentor is assigned to the new member.

Have and maintain a speech and leadership tracking spreadsheet and charts by the VP of Education. This will help you gage how your club is doing with its DCP/Club Success Plan and how the members are progressing with the DMP (Distinguished Member “Promise to Self”/ Personal Contract.)

Hold Open Houses on a regular schedule.

More of Jack Schmidt's “Best Practices,” will soon be available on the Founder's District Website.

Division D Club of the Quarter

Division D

This series is designed to highlight one club a quarter in Division D that demonstrates Integrity, Respect, Service, and Excellence as these are the core values of Toastmasters International.

English as a Second Language Toastmasters Club #1 (ESL) is one of the newest clubs in Division D. On August 4, 2013, I had the pleasure of visiting this club with Area D4 Governor Richard Lombardi and we were both very impressed. The ESL Club was originally targeted for individuals who speak a language other than English as their primary language or individuals who would like to build their English vocabulary.

This club was created about three years ago under the direction of Dr. Patricia Adelekan. What makes this club outstanding is the teamwork of the club officers, the camaraderie among the members, and the overall positive learning environment where members can be more comfortable speaking English in front of a group. “We love our club,” says Lourdes Crampton, a two year member. “It gives us a chance to speak and feel comfortable among others who are struggling with perfecting their English and loosening their tongues.”

On the day of my visit, there was a full agenda including an advanced speech by Club President Laura Kim, Ice Breakers by new members Bryan Le and Fahad Alrumaih, and a very inspiring speech by Erik Yumul titled “Experiencing Financial Peace” where he completed his Competent Communicator.

ESL Toastmasters (club 1565170) is on the way to President’s Distinguished for the second year in a row by maintaining a positive learning environment and giving their club members the opportunity to succeed. This club has clearly demonstrated the values of Integrity, Respect, Service, and Excellence.

Norm and Frannie Stein Honored

Most Toastmasters in the Founder’s District are

familiar with the warm and smiling faces of Frannie and Norm Stein. They are the dynamic duo that is currently championing the Distinguished Members Program at every opportunity. With enthusiasm and fervor, they explain and demonstrate—much like Monty Hall and Carol Merrill—the benefits that Toastmasters will receive by committing to fulfilling the requirements of a CC and a CL in one year (or for the more advanced Toastmasters, completing the next levels of both speaking and leadership tracks). It’s a tremendous program that will lead to a DTM award for members who take it seriously; and the Steins’ zeal and dedication to this program are certainly influencing many Toastmasters to rise to the occasion.

For this and many other reasons, they both received a Presidential Citation Award which was presented to them on August 22, 2013 at the Toastmasters 82nd Annual International Convention which was held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

According to Bryan Fisher of Toastmasters International, “The Presidential Citation is recognition of a Toastmaster member for achievements and accomplishments deemed ‘above and beyond the call of duty’ throughout his or her time as a member.”

*The Steins **DROVE** to the International Convention. According to Norm, driving to far-away conventions is nothing new for them. “Sadly,” according to Frannie, “there was no time for sightseeing. We usually try to visit presidential libraries, but not on this trip.”*

No presidential libraries, but a presidential citation. That’s a fair trade! We at Founder’s District congratulate Norm and Frannie Stein on this wonderful accomplishment.



SAVE THE DATE

Founder's District Conference Saturday, November 9, 2013

The Fall District Conference will take place on Saturday, November 9, 2013, at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in La Mirada, CA. Volunteers are needed in order to make this event a success. We are looking for assistance for the following roles:

- Sergeant-at-Arms
- Registration / Credentials Desk
- Hospitality
- Set Up
- Clean Up

Please contact one of the following District Conference Co-Chairs if you would like to volunteer to fill one of these important roles:

- Diane Beall, DTM b22ear@socal.rr.com
- Jill Briscoe, DTM jillb.tm@gmail.com
- Lorrie Briscoe, DTM briscoelj@aol.com

This is a great opportunity to meet Toastmasters from other Divisions within Founder's District and build lifelong friendships. You will develop your leadership skills by taking on the role as one of the event chairs by forming and leading your team.

If you have never attended a District Conference, you will see how everything comes together after holding the Club, Area, and Division contests. You get to see the best of the best compete at the District level in the Tall Tales and Evaluation Speech contests.

Don't delay, these roles will fill fast. Please contact one of the Conference Co-Chairs for more information about these roles and the District Conference.

Lorrie Briscoe, DTM
Founder's District Conference Co-Chair

About Founder's District

Founder's District is the birthplace of Toastmasters. Founder's District serves 200+ Toastmasters clubs and more than 3500 members in Southern California. For more information, please visit: www.foundersdistrict.org