



The Founder

www.foundersdistrict.org

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

MARCH 2016



Founder's District
Trio-Messages

LACE
Recap

Spring
**Conference
& Contests**

SPEAKER
EXCHANGE
PROGRAM

Why Compete
in Contests?

Your Professional Value
in the FUTURE

...and MORE!

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



Marie Hulett, DTM
Editor in Chief of *The Founder*

When I was in high school, I ran on the cross country and track teams. My best school memories come from the experiences I had during that time. The friendships I had (and continue to have for more than 35 years), can only be described as supportive, strong, and true. What's interesting is my husband, who also ran on his high school's cross country and track teams, felt the same way about his teammates.

There's something about the bonds that are created when you push yourself to your physical and emotional limits with other people. I believe the same holds true for those who served in the military together, competed with *any* type of sports team, or worked in a dangerous job (i.e., fire fighters). One can't help but feel a special connection with those who are taking the same journey.

Though being a member of a Toastmasters' club isn't a life or death struggle, public speaking and the fear or exhilaration that many of us associate with it, elicit the same kinds of feelings that I described earlier. Toastmasters can't help but feel attached to their fellow club members.

We empathize with newbies who are taking their first steps with their ice breaker speeches, or participating in table topics. We encourage them and support them. We also continue to cheer on the seasoned "Toasties" when they make the leap into speech competitions, or complete a Toastmaster milestone. I am proud of my Toastmaster family and know that I have made many more lifelong friends by being in this

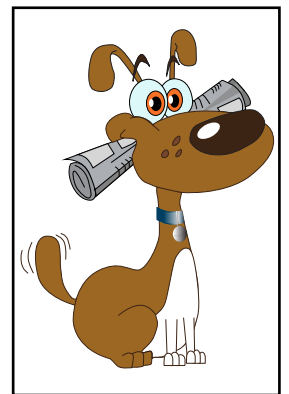
organization. That is a benefit of Toastmasters that we may not always think of when we tell people about what a great organization this is.

I still run today and hopefully always will. I enjoy meeting other runners at races. But when my knees get too rickety to keep going, I know I can always count on experiencing the same team-type camaraderie in Toastmasters.



From our last issue, Lawrence Crandall and Christine Brady found our mascot, "Founder"

(pictured to the right) hiding on Page 9, sitting on Pan's shoulder, and on Page 27, sitting in front of David Moore on the table. They both scored free tickets to the Winter LACE!



Founder is hiding again in this issue and the first two people who correctly determine where he is will each win a free ticket to to the Sping Conference! Email me at mhulett@coastline.edu to let me know BOTH of his hiding spots.



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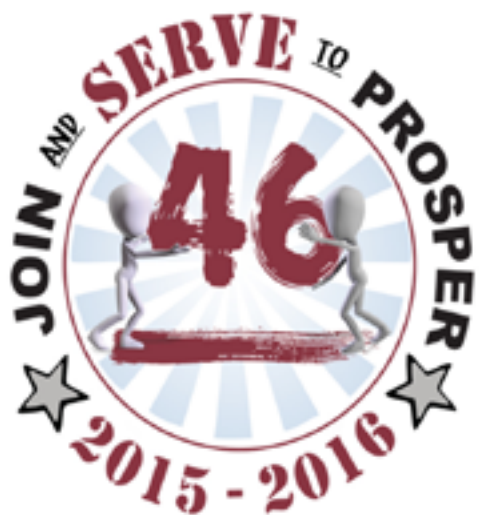
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Club Growth Director, Daniel Cossack, DTM, District Director, Pan Kao, DTM, Ph.D., Program Quality Director, Siri Payakapan, DTM, Ph.D.



The number "46" in this design represents our goal to create 46 new clubs in Founder's District in the 2015/2016 Toastmasters' Year.

Toastmasters International Mission

We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.

www.toastmasters.org

Founder's District Mission

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

www.foundersdistrict.org

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Photo Courtesy of Richard Daugherty

Pan Kao, DTM, Ph.D. **District Director**

Reflections from Mid-year Training

At the recent Founder's District Mid-Year Training held on January 16 In Costa Mesa, Siri Payakapan, Program Quality Director, Dan Cossack, Club Growth Director, and the District leadership team reflected on our accomplishments from the last six months and examined the challenges ahead of us. The key to success is to continue doing what we have been doing right and make adjustments to our plan to overcome those challenges ahead of us.

What have we accomplished so far? First of all, It was a huge step forward for Founder's District to pass two proposals at the Fall District Conference: District Reformation (a.k.a. District Split) and 10 Divisions Proposals. These two proposals allow more members to step up to serve as leaders. The number of members who responded to the recent "Call for Nominations," has increased significantly. For more information about "Call for Nominations," visit <http://www.foundersdistrict.org/resources/nominations>.

The 2015 Fall Conference was a successful event. The event featured keynote speaker, our International President-Elect Mike Storkey, DTM, who came all the way from Queensland,

Australia. He had a great opening. He said, "Let me make it clear. I do not have accent. It's you who have accents!" He then shared with us the importance of mentoring. It was truly a highlight of the Conference.

Our C & L (Communication & Leadership) Award recipient was Fritz Coleman. During our lunchtime celebration in the beautiful ballroom at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel, he shared with us his wonderful sense of humor about his many challenges during his role as the Channel 4 weatherman. Trying to make the weather interesting when it is warm and sunny most of the time is a challenge!

Two LACE events in January were really WOW moments for me. I'm so honored to have served the greatest Toastmasters members of Founder's



District. At our LACE event at Chapman College, ten minutes into Ricky Powell's keynote speech, the power went out. The outage could have ruined the event. However, our members remained calm and Ricky continued with his presentation without his PowerPoint slides, with



only the daylight shining through the windows. Here is what Ricky had to say after the event.

“How apropos that my philosophy is, “There are no coincidences, and that, “Everything happens for a reason!”

I have had the honor and pleasure of delivering keynotes at several events in the past, but I have to say this was the most fun and one of the most supportive and engaged audiences I have seen.

I would just like to thank you again, Deborah (Reisdorph), for making it such a wonderful day all around. This was a shining example of how the show must go on, and everyone did a fabulous job of making that happen!

No wonder the Founder’s District has such an awesome reputation. I am so honored to have had the opportunity.” – Ricky Powell

The LACE event at Caltech on January 30, with gorgeous views and buildings, was a little bit chilly and windy for members to walk outdoors to attend sessions. Again, with tremendous



support from members at Founder’s District, the event turned out to be one of the best. Here is what Judy Carter, our amazing keynote speaker had to say after the event.

“OK - I’ll admit when I had to get up at 6 am (with a cold) to put on my blue jacket and head

on off to Pasadena to speak at LACE Founders, I was NOT in a good mood. I asked myself, “Why do I volunteer to do this?”

And then I met you guys. Excuse me for being so “California” -- but what great energy was in the room! And then I hear your stories and I’m blown away.” – Judy Carter

I would like to thank our many volunteers who helped to make these LACE events a



success. Thank you to our LACE South Chair Jocelyn Litiatco, LACE North Chair Karen Baumgartner, LACE Advisor Assistant Karen Spohn, and LACE Advisors Deborah Reisdorph and John Barry.

We are still facing challenges in the next few months. As you know, the district mission is: “We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.” So far, the District has built 10 new clubs and inspired members to step up to serve in leadership positions. However, we still need to find more mentors and coaches to step up to support the district mission. For examples, future District 100 needs more new club leads and there are 60 clubs with low membership that need coaches. We need more volunteers to step up and serve our members. If you are

interested in serving as a club coach or mentor, please send an email to info@toastmasters.org. Let’s end the year strong and help our clubs to be successful!

Best Regards,

Pan Kao, DTM, Ph.D.



Photo Courtesy of Richard Daugherty

Siri Payakapan, DTM, Ph.D. **Program Quality Director**

We are now in the ninth month of our 2015-2016 Toastmaster term. I hope you are having fun while growing personally and professionally through the Toastmaster's 'learn-by-doing' approach, at your clubs as well as outside your clubs.

LACE

The focus of our Program Quality Team (<http://www.foundersdistrict.org/district-contacts/program-quality-chairs>) has been on the members. Between LACE-South at Chapman University in Orange and LACE-North at Caltech in Pasadena, LACE provided our members the opportunity to advance their skills and gain new ones.

LACE also offered training for club officers, the key to achieving club excellence. To view the current Club Officers Training Status go to <http://www.foundersdistrict.org/officer-training-status>.

LACE was a big success with a turnout of over 750 attendees. Compliments keep pouring in, verbally as well as in writing. The success was a combined result of months of careful planning and effective coordination among

many teams of leaders, under the leadership of Training Co-Chair/LACE Advisor Deborah Reisdorph, ACB. Read more about our LACE events on pages 23-25.

MIDYEAR TRAINING AND LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

To make sure District leaders have the proper tools to support members, Toastmasters International trains the District Trios for two full days in August and another two full days in January. Similarly, each district trains area and division directors for a minimum of four hours in June and in January.

On January 16th at the National University in Costa Mesa, our Midyear Training for our area and division directors focused on District Director Pan Kao's theme: *It's not how we start, but how we finish.*

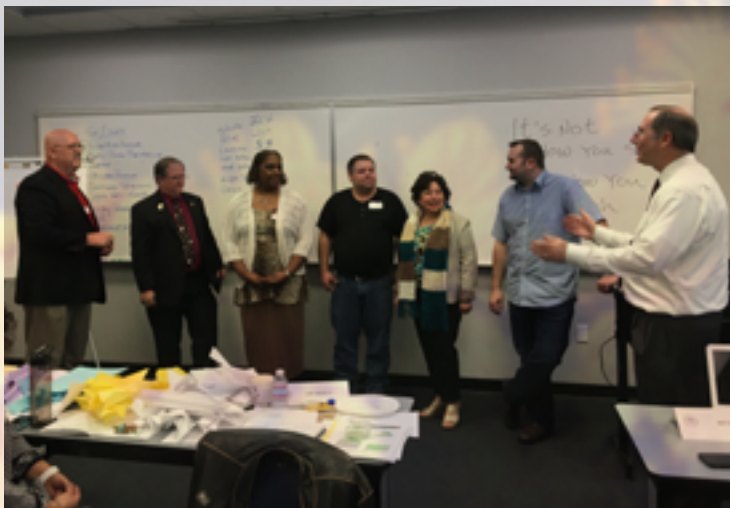
Area and division directors were asked to submit a few pre-training assignments. For submitting proposed topics to be covered in the training, Area D1 Director Tim Hollenbeck, ACB, CL, Area D2 Director Richard Snyder, DIM, PID, Area F4 Director Darlene McCoullough, DTM, and Division B Director Michelle Bender, DTM, each received a Moments of Truth manual to help low-member clubs.

Division B Director Michelle Bender, DTM, and Area D2 Director Richard Snyder, DTM, PDG, each received a free ticket to the Spring Conference for writing the best description of their respective role and responsibilities as division and area director. The winning descriptions will be posted on our District website. As a token of appreciation, all directors who submitted the description: Division A Director Vijay Chidambaram, ACS, ALB, Division F Director David Moore, ACS, ALB, Area B2 Director Jennifer Kwan, CC, CL, Area D1 Director Tim Hollenbeck, ACB, CL, Area D4 Director Tony Crowell, CC, Area F4 Director Darlene McCoullough, DTM, and Area G4 Director Raymond McCoullough, ACB, ALB, each received a Mentoring manual to help their members.

As planned, the Midyear Training was interactive and engaging, bringing out practical solutions for each division during the lively and loudly brainstorming session. We were fortunate to have several distinguished leaders serving as facilitators, namely, Past International Director Lauren Kelly, DTM and Past District Governors: Lou Ann Frederick, DTM, John Angiolillo, DTM, Bob Hudack, DTM, Alanda Dyer, DTM, and Colette Garner, DTM.

After the brainstorming session, each division made a 5-minute presentation of realistic strategies to achieve Division Success Plan. The winner was Division B! Division B elected Area B6 Director Hector Mascorro, DTM, as introducer and Area B1 Director Rose Abbott, ACB, ALB, as presenter. Rose skillfully delivered Division B's practical strategies to finish the year strong. As a prize, Division B received several education manuals to help members within the division.

The already energetic training ended with a bang! Club Growth Director Dan Cossack, DTM, introduced his new creation—Team Building Game—that involved area and division directors to practice identifying potential leaders and forming a team that can build the most types of paper planes, according to the instructions provided. Participants frantically folded paper airplanes in different colors as the countdown minutes came to a close. The winning team finished folding 22 planes of 7 types, was awarded a token prize (\$5 Starbucks gift cards), and bragging rights.



After lunch, our District Nomination Chair Bob Hudack, DTM, PDG, organized a Leadership Seminar to establish a pool of leaders for our District. A panel of experts was invited to give a presentation on each specific District leadership role. The panel included Past International Directors: Lauren Kelly, DTM, and Richard Snyder, DTM and Past District Governors: Lou Ann Frederick, DTM, John Angiolillo, DTM, Bob Hudack, DTM, Alanda Dyer, DTM, and Colette Garner, DTM.

Since Norm Stein, DTM, is a faculty member at the National University, we received a good discount for the facilities. Lorrie Briscoe, DTM, and Jill Briscoe, DTM, kindly took care of the continental breakfast and served as timers. A delicious hot lunch was catered from Stonefire Grill.

Colette Garner, DTM, PDG, deserved special thanks for conducting make-up midyear training for area and division directors, with the assistance of Lorrie Briscoe, DTM, and Jill Briscoe, DTM.

EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVES

You and your club members are eligible for \$5 discount at the June LACE events, if all of your club's seven officers are trained by February 29th. See a full list of Educational Incentives at <http://www.foundersdistrict.org/resources/education/educational-incentives>.

Let's make our Toastmaster journey even more fun by energizing more members to get involved in Toastmaster activities. Let's invite as many members and guests as possible to our speech contests—one of the showcases of Toastmaster 'learn by doing' approach. Attendees will be entertained, motivated, and inspired by excellent speeches delivered by our polished contestants. They will also experience the outcomes of effective teamwork, planning, organizing, and collaboration by multiple teams of dynamic leaders.



Daniel Cossack, DTM

Photo Courtesy of Richard Daugherty

Club Growth Director

Status Update

In the beginning of the year, we set an ambitious goal of starting one new club in each area of the district—46, to be exact. This is not an unreasonable goal but it would require effort by everyone from Area Directors on up to bring in new leads, following up on leads, putting together demo teams, club sponsors, and eventually club mentors. Why this ambitious goal? Executing

this well means we could potentially get every area in the district to be a President’s Distinguished area. The key to this success is bringing in those new club leads. So, how are we doing?

We are now in the ninth month of our twelve-month term. So far, we have only started eleven new clubs and we have lost more existing clubs than new ones started, putting us at three clubs below our base. We are far behind our schedule of where we should be at this time which means we need to work harder to catch up. We are currently working on about 19 new club leads that we hope will soon be chartered, but more leads are still needed to cover every area of our district.

You can help if you know of a prospect where we can build a new club in Founder’s District. Just send the name and contact information to www.foundersdistrict.org/lead and we will follow up on the lead. When the club charts, we’ll give you a free ticket to the next District Conference.

We hope to see many new clubs in our district this year. With your help, we can spread the benefits of Toastmasters to more people in your community. Wouldn’t it be exciting to see a new club being chartered right in your own backyard and know that you helped to make it happen? Welcome all of the new clubs added to our district this year:

B-1	4714177	HCP Toastmasters	Dec 18, 2015
D-6	5141077	The ITalkers	Feb 10, 2016
G-4	5116614	Vizio Toastmasters	Jan 8, 2016
H-5	4744910	Whittier Speakers Community Club	Jul 9, 2015
G-3	5037723	The Back Talkers	Nov 19, 2015
D-4	5061522	WF Masters	Nov 24, 2015
F-6	4875458	Care Credit Toasters	Oct 15, 2015
A-4	4911766	MeridianMasters	Sep 11, 2015
F-2	4854480	LIFO a Toastmaster	Sep 22, 2015
F-3	4909894	Anton & Chia, LLP	Sep 22, 2015
G-6	4942689	Schneider Electric - Costa Mesa	Sep 30, 2015

Remember our District Mission: We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence!



Jill Briscoe,
DTM
Public
Relations
Manager
PR
Update

Interview by Michelle Bender

Q. What has been happening with the Founder's District PR Team?

A. We have been busy with lots of participation from our PR team which includes Social Media, Website, Newsletter, Photography, Videography, and District TV. We also have Speakers Bureau, Judges Bureau and Mail Data as part of our team.

Q. What are some initiatives that have been successful this year?

A. We began our Social Media sites for Instagram, Facebook and Twitter for Founder's District. Please check out our sites at:
Instagram @Founders_District_Toastmasters
Twitter @FoundersTM
Facebook www.facebook.com/
FoundersToastmasters

Q. What challenges have you encountered during your term as Public Relations Manager?

A. Trying to get more people involved in the many activities we promote.

Q. Will Founder's District allow virtual clubs?

A. So far we do not have any virtual clubs in Founder's District, although I think offering a way to connect by video/webinar for those members who live far way would be a good idea. We will see more on virtual clubs from Toastmasters, as many people are interested in this possibility.

Q. Will there be any PR contests at the upcoming Spring/Fall Conference?

A. So far we did not promote any PR contests in the fall; we hope to promote some contests in the spring.

Q. Does Founder's District plan to make training videos available to members?

A. We do have chief judge/judges training videos and are considering the future use of on-line training.

Q. Any other topics?

A. We post lots of updates on the website, be sure to check it frequently for information, especially as we get closer to the Founder's District Conference coming up on April 30, 2016 at Knott's Berry Farm Hotel. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with the website. There are many resources available such as club officer training statistics, contest forms, educational resources, etc.

Please see the back cover of this publication for more information about the upcoming Spring Conference and Speech Contests and be sure to **REGISTER EARLY!**

Founder's District Spring Conference & International Speech Contest April 30, 2016

By Linda Robinson, ACS, ALS



The sun is shining and the air is warm... it seems like spring is here! With thoughts of warm spring days surrounding us, what do we think about first?

That's easy, we are Toastmasters, we think about the International Speech Contest!!



Yes!! The Founder's District Spring Conference & International Speech Contest will be held on April 30, 2016.

What makes this Spring Conference so exciting?
What makes this Conference the Go-To event of the year?
Why do you want to attend?

There are dozens of reasons, but first and foremost the Founder's District Spring Conference is your opportunity to participate, to learn and to enjoy

the best Founder's District has to offer. It is a day of leadership, outstanding speeches, energy and excitement.

If you attended the Fall Conference you know three things: the venue is delightful, the meetings are fast paced and stay on time, and the speech contest showcases exceptional talent.

Comments from attendees last November said: "Well organized and entertaining" "super conference" "great turnout" "delicious lunch" "loved the efficiency of the business meeting" "great venue, it all went very smoothly" "excellent overall" "one of the better run conferences" "an action-packed day" "very organized conference and on time" "loved the program design, great work!" "Band and Color guard were terrific! Big energy to start."

This Spring Conference promises no less. As a matter of fact, it will be even better. Why?

International Speech Contest participants will astound and inspire you with their winning speeches. You will see and hear some of the best speakers in the world - right here in Founder's District! Do not miss the opportunity to

hear the speech winner for Founder's District as he or she takes the next step to the International stage in August!

Daniel Rex, Toastmasters International Chief Executive Officer, will present the Keynote Speech. He will motivate and inspire us to expand and fulfill our personal journey as Toastmasters.



Founder's District Elections: As a member of Founder's District, you have the opportunity to participate during the District Business Meeting and election of Founder's District leaders for 2016-2017. These elections are a critical first step to preparing District leadership for both Founder's and Century Districts in 2017-18. As a Club President or VP Education you may vote for one District Director, two Program Quality Directors, two Club Growth Directors and ten Division Directors. You will shape the future of these two critically important Districts!



Distinguished Toastmasters Award Ceremony and Educational Awards Recognition - congratulate your fellow Toastmasters on a job well done! You know what it takes to be a DTM or to be a Distinguished Member: join them and celebrate their accomplishments and encourage them to continue on their Toastmasters journey!

Many other activities will delight and inspire you: The Grand Opening Ceremony with the Buena Park Band and ROTC Color Guard; the C&L Award recipient presentation during a delicious Knott's Berry Farm luncheon including boysenberry pie and the opportunity to cast your votes with prize tickets to win amazing gifts during the Opportunity Drawing!



And don't forget the chance to see so many distinguished and exceptional leaders from our District – seldom do we have the time or the opportunity to engage with so many delightful and skilled public speakers and committed leaders – these are our mentors and role models – let's shake their hand!

Siri Payakapan, Founder's District Program Quality Director, invites you to attend the Spring Conference and International Speech Contest at the Knott's Berry Farm



Resort Hotel on April 30, 2016.

Will I see you there? Of course I will! Mark your calendar now and I will look forward to seeing you there.

Online Registration begins March 1. Special **Early Bird Pricing ends April 6.**

Early Bird Pricing for the Full Day conference: \$65

Early Bird Pricing for the Speech Contest Only: \$10

Register at:

<http://www.foundersdistrict.org/conference>

Don't miss this special date:
Founder's District Spring Conference & International Speech Contest

April 30, 2016
8:15 am-3:45 pm

Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel
7675 Crescent Avenue, Buena Park, CA
90620

Attending the Business Meeting only is free to Toastmaster members. If you plan to attend the Business Meeting only, arrive early (by 8:30 am) to hear the keynote address by Toastmasters International CEO, Daniel Rex!!



Contest Planning Tips

*by Deborah Reisdorph,
ACB, District Training Co-Chair, LACE
Advisor*

Every year, one person is chosen to be the Toastmasters World Champion of Public Speaking. Who will it be? What if you could be part of the process that finds that special someone? Every World Champion started in a local club.

A recent blog at Huffington Post.com says: "The first step in order to consider competing for the World Championship of Public Speaking is to become a member of a Toastmasters club." It all starts at the club level, and then each level thereafter requires more volunteers to make the final determination a reality!

Founder's District leaders gathered for Contest Training on February 6, 2016 at National University in Costa Mesa.



Gwen Earle, DTM, District Contest Co-Chair with Jim Raney, DTM, Co-Chair, led an outstanding morning of training. I brought the coffee and then stayed to take notes so I could provide these highlights to you.

The excitement began with esteemed trainer, Colette Gardner, DTM, PDG on the topic of Food and Hospitality. Colette even gave us training tips such as, "whenever you ask for a show of hands, tell the audience how many hands you see because they can't always see what you see." A first class contest begins with great hospitality! Use a great theme to add fun, energy and focus, Colette told us. When creating a menu remember to plan the clean-up team too. Work within your budget or get sponsors. Never do it alone, recruit assistants, they are everywhere! Keep it simple, healthy, and fun! Plan your location thoughtfully with the Logistics Manager considering signage, registration, set-up and easy clean up.

Lorrie Briscoe trained on how to

create a budget and raise funds for your successful contest. It's all about Place, People and Process as "The Profit" would say. Opportunity drawing

is a great fund raiser when used effectively. Gather donations from businesses in your area as opportunity drawing prizes. Take a letter with the TM Tax ID inviting the donation.

Ask and they will give! The nicer gifts you have in the opportunity drawing the more tickets you will sell at the contest. Here is a good set up for tickets:

- 1 ticket for \$1
- 7 tickets for \$5
- 20 tickets for \$10

At higher level contests 50 tickets for \$20. Save costs by using a free location, and gathering donations for the food menu. There are many



resources you can gain from interacting with experienced contest chairs. Plan early. Gain participation of members. Seek RSVP early. Debrief. Have fun!

Jill Briscoe trained on the value of Flyers, Program & Location. Getting RSVPs is key to an effective preparation. Have a timed agenda for participants and scripts for leaders, but create a simple and dynamic program for guests. Include a map to your location on the

flyer. Provide for mail in and online registration if possible. Name 1st and 2nd place contestants on the program, even though one is competing.

Never list your judges. Always make space for thank you moments at the end of the contest. Create the energy from the first flyer. Be a brand ambassador.

Organizing a contest is fun! How about using a contest as an open house? Make it an event your guests will remember! Showcase your talent.

Sherry Tomasula highlighted the role of the Logistics Manager. Plan extra rooms, entrances and doors. Prepare start up and introduction of Area Director or Division Director with fanfare and energy. Be sure the Master of Ceremonies has high energy too. Know your emergency exit options and be ready to direct guests. Know the timed agenda well. Timing is everything. Sherry created amazing checklists for Logistics Manager, Master of Ceremonies and Toastmaster roles.

You can receive the checklists, sample scripts and other useful contest resources by sending an email to gearle@att.net. Make your contest, club, area or division the best ever!





The Real Toastmasters of Orange County Encourages Virtual Meetings

by Dennis Popp, ACS, ALB

“Most of my graduate school classes are virtual, many of the meetings at work are virtual – so what’s the problem with attending a Toastmasters meeting “virtually” when I’m out of town for business?” Jordan Adajar asked this question during his prepared speech at a meeting of The Real Toastmasters of Orange County on January 28, 2016.

Jordan had researched the question while learning, with the help of his Supervisor, Marlene Swider, ACS, CL, that it could be done. Ray Brullo, CC, CL, the club Secretary and Treasurer, and Binh Nguyen the SAA will assure the necessary equipment at the meeting site is available. President Amy Stanton is writing the necessary bylaws and administrative changes for the club’s approval. Members attending from remote locations will provide their own laptops. Teamwork? Check. Delegation to share the workload and minimize the time needed? Check.

Timeline? Testing started in February and the virtual attendance option will be featured – and demonstrated in real time -- during the club’s March Open House. There’s no moss accumulating here!

From TMI Protocol 2.0:

Club and Membership Eligibility

F. 3. Virtual Attendance at Club Meetings

A. Virtual attendance is defined as any

member participating and interacting in a club meeting through the use of live audio and video conferencing tools utilizing an online platform.

The biggest problem with getting full value from the virtual world, according to Adajar, is the large number of platforms available to host virtual meetings.

“Some clubs might use a free program, others a more robust but fee-based program. They can all work for the clubs, but classes from Founder’s District, or visits to other clubs could become problems unless the platforms are compatible. I think TMI or Founder’s District should investigate adopting and standardizing a platform before a lot of clubs are too attached to the one they’re used to using.”

The idea of virtual attendance was raised last fall. Marlene learned more about TMI policies and requirements so she was able to help Jordan start his research. His findings were incorporated into his fifth speech titled “Toastmaster in a Virtual World.”

The Real Toastmasters of Orange County meets every other Thursday at noon in the Irvine FDA building from 11:30am to 12:30pm. This is a closed facility, so visitors should plan to arrive early to check in at the guard station and meet an escort in the lobby (when needed) by 11:20am.

Proactive and Creative

by Dennis Popp, ACS, ALB



Vera Morales, President of the new Toastmasters Club Anton & Chia LLP and Christina Leon, President of CityMasters OC club, collaborated in January on the challenges faced by closed sponsored) clubs.

Christina noticed that a new club, Anton & Chia LLP (Club #4909894) had been chartered near her CityMasters OC (Club #3271780). She arranged to attend an Anton & Chia LLP meeting on January 29 to learn how the club approached lunch-hour-limited meetings, members' absences for business trips and developing and maintaining sponsor support for their club.

"I've taken more than a page of notes about what this club does that we (CityMasters OC)

might want to consider. I've learned a lot and I hope we can help them, too. We have a lot of experience as a closed club" Christina said.

Closed clubs are usually chartered by a business or government agency. Membership is limited to employees, and most meet at lunchtime.

Proactive help and creative solutions drive excellence in Toastmasters clubs. Helping others, whether they are speakers seeking improvement or clubs learning to excel, exemplifies Toastmasters leadership. Sometimes, as this Anton & Chia LLP and CityMasters OC collaboration illustrates, the best help starts with alert and enthusiastic members and develops through the creativity of club leaders.

Christina invited the Anton & Chia LLP club members to attend her club's meeting to learn how her club deals with the challenges faced by closed clubs. She and Vera plan to continue their collaboration and mutual support during the rest of this Toastmaster year.



Educational Incentives 2015-2016

by Siri Payakapan, DTM, Ph.D.

	Time Frame	Level - Requirements	Award
1	January 1- February 29, 2016	Club - all 7 club officers trained	All club members receive \$5 discount at June 2016 LACE events.
2	By March 31, 2016	Division - 40% of clubs achieving distinguished status	Each Division Director receives \$35 discount at the 2016 Spring District Conference
3	By March 31, 2016	Division - 45% of clubs achieving distinguished status	Each Division Director receives \$45 discount at the 2016 Spring District Conference
4	By March 31, 2016	Division - 50% of clubs achieving distinguished status	Each Division Director receives one free ticket to the 2016 Spring District Conference
5	March 1 - April 27, 2016	Division - the most RSVPs for Spring District Conference	Reserved table(s) at the 2016 Spring District Conference for all members in the division and each member receives one free Opportunity Drawing ticket
6	July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016	Area - highest percentage of clubs achieving distinguished status	Each Area Director receives Distinguished Area Award at the Founder's District August 2016 Award night.
7	July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016	Division - highest percentage of clubs achieving distinguished status	Division Director receives Distinguished Division Award at Founder's District August 2016 Award night
8	February 1 - June 30, 2016	Area Advisor - service completed	Each accomplished Area Advisor is awarded a gold achievement medal (name engraved) at the Founder's District August 2016 Award night.
9	June 1- June 30, 2016	Area - most members RSVP online for each LACE events	Reserved tables(s) during lunch and special desserts served



Why Compete in Contests?

by Michelle Bender,
DTM

It's Contest Season!
Speech contests are a
Toastmasters tradition.
Each year thousands
of Toastmasters

compete in the Humorous, Evaluation, Tall Tales, Table Topics and International speech contests. Traditionally in the springtime, Toastmasters has two competitions: The Table Topics and International Speech Contest.

The International Speech contest offers an opportunity for you if you are a seasoned Toastmaster, in good standing, and you've completed at least six speeches from your CC manual. You have the opportunity to present a 5-7 minute speech to showcase the skills you've achieved. If you win at the club level, you can then participate in the Area level competition. Should you win at the Area level, you can participate at the Division level. The competition is greater at each level. If you win at the Division level, you will gain the admiration of many Toastmasters.

The winners from the Division level will compete at the Founder's District Conference scheduled for April 30 at Knott's Berry Farm Hotel. There will be 8 competitors, one from each Division (A-H). If you win at the District level, you will get a paid trip to the International Speech Contest which will be held this year in Washington DC! Winners compete at the Region level and then progress to the main stage at the International Speech Contest. The winner is given the title of World Champion of Public Speaking!

The second contest is the Table Topics contest. The Table Topics Contest is a great way to challenge yourself even if you are a new member. As long as you are in good standing you can participate. All contestants are assigned the same topic (question), told to them when they are introduced by the contest Chair. Competition begins at the club level, and winners advance to the area and division levels. This exciting experience offers opportunity to meet other competitors outside your sphere of influence, participate in friendly competition and allows you to "step outside your comfort zone!"

If you have never been in a contest, this learning experience will give you added confidence and an opportunity to take your speaking skills to a new level. You'll see how experienced competitors use the stage, connect with the audience, and win over the judges.

Should you take the challenge of becoming a contestant, you will be glad you did. There are many benefits which you will realize by competing. Be sure to take a look at the rulebook available on Toastmaster's website. Familiarize yourself with the rules/contest protocol.

If you would like to find out the judging criteria for each contest, you may download the judging forms from the Founder's District website. Each contest has its own forms.

Check out some of Toastmaster's previous winners on YouTube. They are truly amazing! Let them inspire and motivate you to continue in your Toastmasters journey.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to showcase your skills and enjoy the friendly Toastmasters contest experience!



Founder's District Speaker Exchange Program

By Lee Lance,
CC, ALB

The Founder's District Speakers Exchange is here to serve speakers who want additional opportunities to speak outside their club, and clubs who want to hear visiting speakers.

Purpose of the Speakers Exchange

Every club meeting has a limited amount of time for prepared speeches. Clubs that meet less often have less time for prepared speeches, and can serve fewer speakers.

Some clubs have many members and cannot provide enough speaking opportunities for everyone. Members cannot move through the program as quickly as they would like.

Some clubs have fewer members and hear fewer prepared speeches. In some clubs, there are meetings with no prepared speeches. If you want to fill your speaker slots, consider using the Speaker Exchange.

Public speaking means speaking to an audience of strangers. Members learn and grow faster if they speak more often to different audiences and are evaluated by different evaluators.

The Founder's District Speakers Exchange is meant to bring together clubs that want more speakers with speakers that want additional speaking opportunities.

How the Exchange Works

Contact the Speakers Exchange by sending an e-mail message to speakerexchange@foundersdistrict.org.

At present, the Speakers Exchange refers would-be speakers to the local Area Director. (Tell us the name of your club, and we will tell you the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of your Area Director.) Area Directors visit clubs in their area, and know which clubs in their area need speakers. The idea is to not send a speaker from a club in Rosemead to speak in Mission Viejo when there is club that needs a speaker close by in Alhambra.

If a club were to contact the Speakers Exchange in search of a speaker, we would contact the area or division director and ask for contact information for successful clubs in the area, then contact those clubs and ask for a speaker. A club might reasonably ask for a seven-minute manual speech, or for a guest speaker to deliver an educational presentation such as Moments of Truth or Evaluate to Motivate. (Heck, you can ask for anything—we'll try.)

The volunteer at the Speakers Exchange does not try to keep track of all the clubs in Founder's District that want speakers, all the speakers that want speaking opportunities, or all the speakers available to deliver educational modules. However, we will try to match up club's needs with speakers who are willing to speak.

Alternatives

Some clubs and members actively network among each other. They make friends at area and division council meetings, speech contests, district conferences, and LACE, and are then prepared to organize area and division contests, exchange speakers and evaluators, and mentor each other. Current and former district officers volunteer to do this (which is an excellent reason to become one!)

If you have questions regarding the Speakers Exchange, please e-mail: speakerexchange@foundersdistrict.org.



Seven Habits of Highly Successful Area Directors

**by Richard Snyder,
DTM, Area D-2
Director**

Have you ever wondered what it takes to be a successful Area Director or what the most successful Area Directors do? With apologies to Steven Covey who wrote the critically acclaimed book *Seven Habits of Highly Successful People*, I offer “Seven Habits of Highly Successful Area Directors.”

Habit # 1: Teamwork: “Teamwork makes the Dream Work” Every Area Director needs at least one Assistant Area Director and some have two assistants. This is a person you groom to be your eventual successor. In addition to an Assistant Area Director, you should have a mentor who is more experienced than you and will give you both positive and constructive honest feedback.

Habit # 2: Communication is the Key: Remember that many clubs elect club officers every six months which means that many club officers are not aware of what they are supposed to do. Communicate on a regular basis with your club Presidents and promote the Distinguished Club Program, LACE, Area and Division Contests, semi annual dues, officer lists, and proxies for the International Convention. Regular Area Council meetings and conference calls are a great opportunity to communicate with your clubs. When visiting a club in your area, you are usually given an opportunity to comment at the end of the meeting. Follow the Toastmasters evaluation

by commenting on the club’s strengths and one or two areas for growth. Your communication with your clubs should always be supportive and helpful and not too critical or authoritarian with comments like “The club must do this.”

Habit # 3: Show Them You Care: “They don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care. You show them you care by going the extra mile. As opposed to doing just the minimum of two official visits a year, strive to visit each club on a quarterly basis and struggling clubs will need even more of your attention. Remember that doing the minimum gets minimum results. Have regular communication with each club via email and don’t be afraid to pick up the phone. By showing them you care and building rapport, the club will be open to your advice.

Habit # 4: Delegate to Empower, but don’t forget to follow up. Successful leaders realize they cannot do it all. Don’t be afraid to ask past District leaders to help you with training club officers. As an Area Director your time is very valuable and your first priority is serving the clubs in your area and helping them to be successful (Distinguished or better). Ask your assistant, your predecessor, or your mentor to chair the area contest. By delegating to your assistant and other Toastmasters, you are helping to develop future leaders but don’t forget to follow up to make sure they are following through.

Habit # 5: Be a role model for the members and the clubs in your Area: Dress the part (which means no jeans or tee-shirts) and remember you are representing Founder’s District. Make sure to arrive to all club meetings on time and stay for the full meeting. Make sure your paper work such as Area Governor club visitation forms are submitted on time (earlier is better!)

Habit # 6: Recognition = Motivation: Ours is a non-profit organization and we cannot pay our volunteers, but we can sincerely thank them publicly for their efforts. In addition to certificates, which are nice but overdone, consider a hand written note, Thank You Card, or sincerely delivered public appreciation. When you publicly recognize and thank someone for their efforts, they will be more motivated to help you in the future.

Habit # 7: Help start a new club: The difference between finishing Select Distinguished and Presidents Distinguished is having a net growth of one Toastmasters club. Each Area Director should strive to help form a club during their term. That does not mean you have to personally start a new club, but keep your eyes open for new club opportunities. Consider making a mentor or your predecessor a New Club Chair in your Area.

By following these seven habits of highly successful Area Directors, you will be well on your way to a successful term as an Area Director, don't forget to have FUN, and remember that it is an honor and privilege to serve.



My Journey as a Mentor

By Ligia Molina, DTM

Yes, I am one of the thousands of individuals that have benefitted from the communication and

leadership program developed by Toastmasters International.

I joined Huntington Hospital Toastmasters, not knowing what Toastmaster was all about. To my surprise, I enjoyed the club meetings, friendship and camaraderie. My communication and leadership skills grew as I participated in speeches, evaluations, Table Topics, and contests.

I completed the CC manual in less than a year. Eventually, I served the club as President. Another year later, I served as Area Governor, and two years later, I served as Division B Governor and achieved President's Distinguished Division.

As I grew in Toastmasters communication and leadership skills, I developed an eagerness to share my experience with the new club members. My skills as a mentor began to emerge and I found myself enjoying the role of mentor.

By joining a club, the new member has the potential to embark in a most fabled journey, the Toastmasters journey. The person may embrace this journey with enthusiasm and expectations of growth or may disembark and abandon with disappointment, what may have been the journey that changed his/her life for the better.

A new member in my club, May, was shy with a heavy accent and did not participate in the club's roles. I became her mentor, encouraging her to take an active role at the club meetings, and she agreed to do her first speech. The day she delivered her Ice Breaker was a special moment, and I was thrilled to see what May had achieved. She went on to compete at the Evaluation and Table Topic contests. She became the club's VPE and one of the strongest club members. I would like to believe that mentoring empowered May to become an accomplished Toastmaster.

Toastmasters has developed the manuals that teach the steps to attain our goals. Is that enough? No, it is not enough. A club mentor has the “magic” to help the new member gain the skills he or she is seeking. “The magic is the mentor,” the human touch of teaching, guiding, and encouraging. A mentor, with a proactive approach, brings to life all the Toastmasters manuals, providing the apprehensive new club member with the encouragement needed to become an accomplished speaker and leader. A mentor effectively provides the tools to enhance self-confidence, ensuring personal growth.

We are all called to be a mentor. I met an outstanding mentor, Steven R. Smith, DTM. His personal approach to mentoring touched so many lives in Division B, including my own. In my “Journey as a Mentor,” I remembered Steve and thought of his humble nature, thoughtfulness, and caring attitude. After he passed away, I was instrumental in creating the Steven R. Smith Mentoring Award, to keep his legacy alive, and to recognize the profound and lasting influence a mentor has in the life of a club member in Division B.

Clubs with a Mentoring Program are successful and the membership retention is high. Visiting guests see the positive club’s culture, and they sign up as new members.

Mike Storkey, DTM, Toastmasters International President elect, considers Mentoring the key factor for the club member’s growth, and consequently the club, area, division and district growth. At the Founder’s District Fall Conference in 2015, Mr. Storkey said it clearly, “What does DTM stand for?” DTM stands for “Dedicated to Mentoring.”

I visit clubs, sharing with them “the magic is the mentor” message. My mission is that every club benefits from the Toastmasters

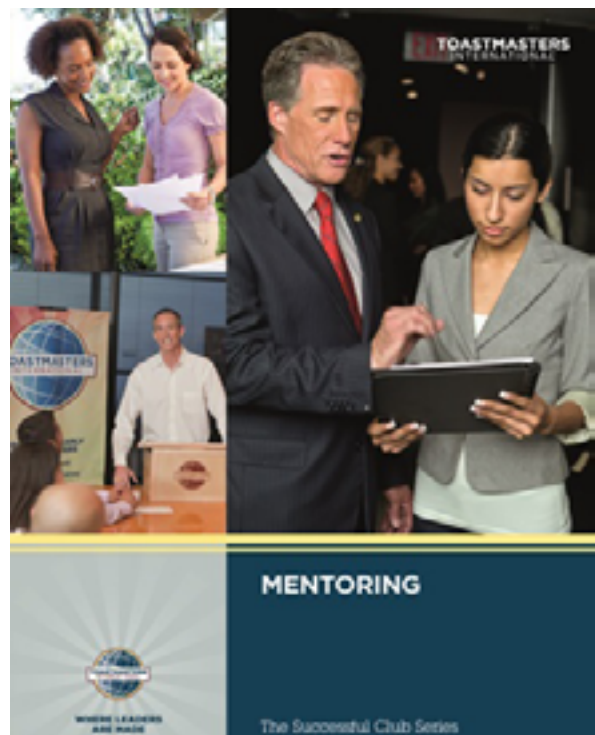
Mentoring Program. I have come to realize that mentoring a club member also helps the mentor to reach their own potential. It is a rewarding experience for both the mentor and the mentee.

I continue on “My Journey as a Mentor.”

Ligia I. Molina, DTM, QS is a Toastmasters member for nine years. She has served as Club Officer, Club President, Area Governor, and Division B Governor. At the District level she has Co-Chaired the Fall and Spring Conference, served as District Parliamentarian, Awards and Recognition Chair, and Opportunity Drawing Chair.

Ligia has been Toastmaster of the Year at the Club and Area level. She was the Area Governor of the Year and Founder’s District Division Governor of the Year.

She currently serves as the Chairperson for the Steven R. Smith Mentoring Award in Division B.



Outstanding Member of DPW Speakers Forum

By Abigail Flores, DPW Club President

Jolene Guerrero, CC, ALB has been with DPW Speakers Forum (Club # 2927) for five years. She has served as President, VPE, VP-PR, Treasurer and Secretary! She is an exemplary member demonstrating dedication to the club through consistent attendance and participation. She is one of our go-to members. When needed, she steps up to fill speaker and role vacancies during meetings. Jolene helps our new members with speech ideas and encourages them to perform meeting roles. Recently our Treasurer resigned, Jolene accepted the nomination, and now serves as club Treasurer. She also enthusiastically shares her experience and knowledge about club logistics and TM policies.

She is a great mentor to me. I joined Toastmasters in 2013 because of her example. With her direction and encouragement, I took on the Club President role. When I ask, she makes time to meet with me to discuss personal, work, and Toastmasters business despite her busy schedule.

Jolene is an accomplished Civil Engineering Supervisor, Girl Scout mom, wife, and marathon runner! She has been running for 18 years completing four or five half-marathons a year. Her favorite marathon is the Disney marathon because people run the race dressed up as Disney characters and have a great time!

Jolene says Toastmasters has helped her organize and facilitate better meetings at work. She has attained her CC and ALB, which has helped her to become more confident speaking in front of audiences. She is great at Table Topics; she answers the questions completely and with confidence.

Her next goal is to achieve her ACB and help DPW Speakers Forum achieve President's Distinguished! Her motto is we all have busy schedules but we can all perform in some capacity to serve the club and grow ourselves.

Our club is ecstatic to have Jolene as a Toastmasters resource, mentor, and friend. We look forward to working with her in achieving Toastmasters goals at the member and club level.

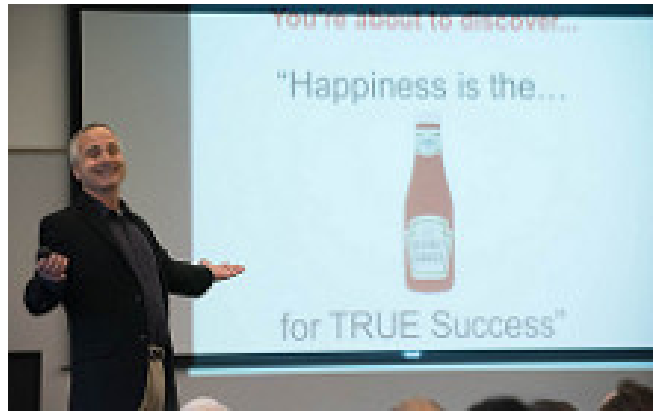




LACE ROCKS at Founders District!
by Deborah Reisdorph, ACB

LACE is more than Club Officer training! Ask a member who attended a half or full day of LACE training at Chapman University in Orange on January 9, or at California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in Pasadena on January 30, 2016. There were more than 750 members in attendance from our 237 clubs. South LACE hosted 505 members. North LACE hosted more than 250 members. LACE is created for YOU, whether you are a member, and officer, or a Toastmaster wanna-be.

Twice a year (January and June) in two locations, Toastmasters and their guests in Founder's District converge together to NETWORK, to TRAIN as Club Officers, and to ENHANCE our professional development in Leadership and Communication. Do you know how to be the best President your club has ever had? Do you know why the Treasurer is the most popular person in October and April? Is your club motivated by its officers and members to grow in size and excitement? Does the job of being VP Education seem overwhelming and you want to know the best



ways of creating exciting meetings with ease? Someone else has filled the role before, so do you have to reinvent the wheel? No, because there are great mentors in Founder's District and they can be found at LACE! Go to LACE and learn tips and tools to be the best officer ever for your club!

This January keynote speakers were Ricky Powell, DTM, author of "Happiness Rocks!" (Lifelonghappiness.com) at Chapman University, and Judy Carter, author of "The Message of YOU" and "The Comedy Bible" (judycarter.com).

Thank you, Ricky and Judy! What did attendees say about Ricky Powell? "Speaker knew his material even with no power!" "positive and uplifting message" "excellent" "he clearly lived his message." If you were at Chapman U during the keynote, you know that the power went out just 15



minutes into the presentation, so Ricky finished the presentation without lights, and without his PowerPoint. An exceptional example of how to

roll with the punches as a speaker. Attendees helped each other with iPhone flashlights in the dark hallway on the way to the first session. Fortunately, the daylight shone brightly through the classroom windows until the lights came back on, but our trainers showed their outstanding integrity by presenting without the prepared PowerPoint.

What did participants say about Judy Carter? “Excellent! Wow!” “Very meaningful, she dug deep” “great insight about finding your message” “Judy is entertaining, captivating, funny, warm-hearted, she involved the audience” “she caught our attention from the start.” Judy gave members an opportunity to learn more about her “Message of You” vision and we took pictures and laughed some more. Judy engaged the audience by drawing out intimate yet powerful messages through impromptu volunteers.



At LACE we make the most of the outstanding talents among our own members in Founder’s District to train club officers in their respective roles, inspire higher speaking proficiency among members, and enhance our leadership skills and talents together. For every LACE event, quality trainers are selected so that the training is fresh and engaging for each year

of officers. Even if you have trained for a role previously, you will learn something new every time you go to LACE! Richard Snyder, DTM, a Past District Governor, received exceptional evaluations because he engaged and excited the club Presidents he trained. “Over the top” one Toastmaster commented. All other trainers received excellent reviews too.

In addition to a class for every Club Officer role, LACE provides Advanced Training for these roles: President, VP Education, and at the next LACE, watch for Advanced VP Public Relations. If you have trained in the same role at least once previously, you are eligible to attend the Advanced Training and receive the credit for that subsequent officers training. TRAIN EVERY LACE! You will gain exceptional value from the other experienced members in the room. The wisdom is always in the room! You won’t receive this high quality training at the make-up trainings. So be sure you check out LACE in June 2016!

As a club officer, do you have your Club Leadership Handbook? Each June, Toastmasters sends out seven of the handbooks to your Club President whose name is on the roster at the time. You may have to ask for your copy as a new officer, so don’t hesitate. Read your handbook and then go to LACE with questions that will help you be the best club officer ever! District Leaders are at LACE to support you, to answer questions, and ignite you with high energy and helpful information and materials to take back to your club.

Learn to give better evaluations. Open your speeches with impact. Learn creative ways to write a new speech. Enhance your speaker etiquette. Highlight the best of your membership through your club website. Use the value of



Frannie Stein sharing what she learned from Judy Carter in her breakout session.

The Youth Sessions were a great success too! Teens, ages 12-17 were engaged and learning about entrepreneurship from YES Place, how to Practice Your Roar with one of the top ten contestants in last year’s International Speech, Patrick Hammond. They learned key social communication skills through Speed Friending from “the Friend Dr.” David Penrose, and Dr. Dave Cornelius engaged them with the Creative Thinking

social media to grow your club membership. Master your impromptu speaking with powerful and useful tips. Understand Toastmasters.org Club Central tools. Experience a demonstration meeting to start a new club through the eyes of a new debate club. Empower your speeches with a Roar. Find leadership opportunities outside the club. These are the benefits of LACE professional training sessions! Visit Deborah’s blog page, Founderslace.blogspot.com to find more highlights from LACE.

Workshop. Youth Leadership Programs are a great way to teach youth the benefits of Toastmasters, and at LACE. Thank you Carlos Copara (Area C2 Assistant Director) for hosting the entire Youth Session agenda.

IF you attended LACE in January, you would have heard member LZ say “I learned things that will change the way I think forever!” or a long-term Toastmaster tell us in the Wrap Up Session, “I have long looked for a good way to write new speeches and found a great new way to write my speeches through Mind mapping today!” Go to WWW.Facebook.com/FoundersToastmasters to view the video of



Frannie Stein, DTM, shares what she learned during breakout session.



Website Design

by *David Penrose*
CC, CL

Is everyone telling you that “you need to have a website”? You understand why, but you are confused about where to start? This article is for you.

Keep in mind that your goal is not to create the most engaging website ever imagined, but to create a clean, fresh, modern and responsive page of information for the world to see and enjoy. Throughout this article, we assume that you have little website building, hosting and managing experience. This may even be your first attempt to build a website for yourself, your business or your club.

If you have never built a website before, the best place to start is BLOGSPOT.COM. Our goal in creating a BLOG is to use a framework for organizing our information. Keep in mind that [BLOGSPOT](http://BLOGSPOT.COM) is owned by GOOGLE, the world’s largest search engine. What does that mean to you? It means that instead of taking months for your SEO (search engine optimized) site to be found only takes hours! The more you add to your site, regardless of links, the easier it is for others to find your information.

In your blog, you can have the following features: a) a menu of pages; b) dynamic pages built from shorter articles; c) a contact form for your site visitors; d) a subscription option for fans; embedded audio and video;

e) links to related websites. As a rule, studies of information foraging indicates that articles with a single related photo is shared with friends more frequently than articles without a photo.

To get started, just open the google apps window in the upper right corner of the screen and go to “Blogger” ... you will notice a button for “New Blog.” After clicking the new blog button, simply type in the name of your blog (you can change this later) and the address for your blog (you are not able to change this later), select a default template and click the “Create Blog!” button. If the address is available, you have built your first website.

You will have a website built immediately, so you can start creating content. Remember that you are using templates, so that if you want to change the overall look and feel ... updating the site is as simple as selecting and applying a new template, press save and voilà! The fun begins when you can learn how to add functionality and incorporate advanced features as your site grows.

Remember, there is always someone who has an answer to your questions. Your challenge is to ask good questions and keep probing until you get an answer you understand. My recommendation for you is to write your articles and pages, using the FREE text editor (e.g., Notepad) and save them on your local computer hard drive. If something happens to the website, at least your original material can be re-published.

David Penrose, CC, CL is our District webmaster.



Division Director Role

By Michelle Bender, DTM

The Division Director is the direct link between the Areas and the District. The Division Director will need to recruit a team of Area Directors and other members

to serve on the Division leadership team.

The team may include a Treasurer, Secretary, Sergeant at Arms, Advisor(s), HPL Chair, Speech Contest Chair, Public Relations Chair, Webmaster, Newsletter Chair, Mentoring Chair, Youth Leadership Chair, etc.

They strive to ensure that their Divisions are Distinguished, and support their Area Directors to help them become Distinguished or better.

Also, they encourage Area Directors to attend District sponsored training twice a year. They also hold a Make-up training event to ensure the club officers in their Division are trained. The goal is 100% officers trained.

They remind the Area Directors of upcoming deadlines such as:

Area Report of Club Visit due dates

Training dates

Division meeting dates

Date to nominate the Area Toastmaster of the Year

They let the Area Directors know of other important events in the District.

The Division Director is part of the DEC meeting and attends regularly. They share best practices with the other Division Directors in the District.

They write a report on how their Division, Areas and Clubs are doing.

They look for prospects for new clubs and assist in club building. This helps bring the benefits of Toastmasters to the local community.

The Division Director also works with the Speech Contest Chair to help plan speech contests every spring and fall.

If you have served at least six consecutive months as a member of a district council, you are eligible to apply for the Division Director role. It is a challenging and rewarding experience! And you earn credit towards the Advanced Leader Silver award. Why not consider this role as an opportunity for you in 2016?





Your Professional Value in the Future

by Norm Stein, DTM and Frannie Jordan Stein, DTM, Ph.D.

What's next for the world? How will we be earning our income in the future? The answer is contained in a new, 2016 book titled, *The Industries of the Future*, by leading innovation expert, Alec Ross.

Be assured, fellow Toastmasters, that we will be sought after, because communication skills: engaging, connecting, persuading and teaching are right up there with the STEM skills-(science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Both sets of skills are a top priority in the age of robots, digitalization, artificial intelligence, genetic coding and a revolution in life sciences.

Our communication skills are in hot demand!

We are bonded together in our Toastmaster clubs to help each other master our communication skills. With each speech, evaluation and table topic, we increase our confidence, enhance our credibility and

advance our role and our respect in our professional and personal lives.

Below are incentives that Founder's District offers to help ourselves and help each other stay on track.

The incentives below will motivate us in our quest for continuous quality improvement in time management and fear-busting-confidence building. Earn the awards described below.

Make a difference! Get noticed! Distinguish yourself! Your individual achievements trickle down and bring distinction to your fellow Toastmaster's club team. Our individual award goals elevate the status of our clubs. All of us benefit from the vigor and vitality of being part of a Distinguished Club. Enjoy the rewards of working the Toastmasters continuous, higher education program.

Be proactive! Go to www.foundersdistrict.org click on Resources, click on Education, and select Distinguished Member Plan (DMP). Read about building your educational plan. Download your Distinguished Member personal contract with yourself. The contract outlines the commitment and the persistent path you will take to become a Distinguished Member and be recognized by you fellow Toastmasters and Founder's District.

Give a copy of your contract to your VP Education and ask them to assist you in completing the contract by June 30th. You will need to complete one leadership award and one communication award to qualify for the DMP.

Your speaking goals can get accomplished by June 30, in regular club meetings. For additional opportunities to speak, set up Club

“Speak-a-thons” or gather in member’s homes for “Speak- a-thons,” or set up speaking opportunities outside your club by going to Founder’s District “Speakers Exchange” (same place on www. foundersdistrict.org mentioned above for downloading your DMP plan.)

Next action to take: Help your club team earn its Distinguished Club success reputation by asking your club leaders if they have downloaded and filled out the Distinguished Club/Club Success form (fill out both sides of the form.) The DCP/Club Success Plan is detailed on the foundersdistrict.org Education webpage.

Be sure your club has sent a copy of the completed DCP form to Founder’s District, as listed on the back of the form. Mailing this form will assure your club will be recognized by Founder’s District.

For more District Incentives at the Area and Division levels, go to foundersdistrict.org Education page, and find the variety of education incentives available to Area and Division leaders.

Another incentive is the International Triple Crown Award. The crown insignia pin will be presented to members who have earned any three education goals between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. Presentations will take place at the Spring and Fall Conferences.

The highest educational award given by Toastmasters International, Distinguished Toastmaster, is presented at the two annual Founder’s District Spring and Fall Conferences. The DTM award recognizes the achievement of completing all Communication and Leadership goals in the Toastmasters Educational Program. Recipients of the Distinguished Toastmaster award are acknowledged by formal recognition in the DTM “hug line,” and presentation of the

DTM medallion following a biographical synopsis of their distinguished accomplishments. Be a Distinguished colleague and commit yourself to Toastmasters higher education, lifelong learning.



Edison Power Lines Receives Donation by Hector Mascorro, DTM

The Southern California Edison (SCE) Chinese Connection Resource Group donated \$250 to the Edison Power Lines (#1055) Toastmasters Club. Hector Mascorro (VP of Education) is presenting the check to Vickie Chau (Club Treasurer).

Edison Power Lines, throughout its 39-year history, has always provided a supportive and friendly environment for its members.

Southern California Edison is a great Toastmaster advocate. The company currently has 11 clubs located through its service territory. Many SCE executives have been very supportive including: Erwin Furukawa, Former Senior Vice President, Customer Service; Lisa Cagnolatti, Vice President, Business Customer Division; and Susan M. Heller, M.D., Corporate Medical Director, just to name a few.

“We have a commitment to build a flexible, skilled and engaged workforce. One crucial skill is effective communication. This is true whether giving a formal presentation or working in groups to achieve a common goal. Toastmasters clubs offer a supportive environment in which employees may sharpen their speaking abilities and enhance their overall value. I am a Toastmaster Booster.” Thomas Calabro, Director, LPA Regions.

Edison Power Lines is an open club that meets on Thursday at noon at the Edison Office located at 1515 Walnut Grove Avenue in Rosemead (3rd Floor Conference Room). Visit their website at: <http://edisonpowerlines.toastmastersclubs.org>



HCP Toastmasters Club Chartered in Division B

by Lorrie Briscoe, DTM

In December 2013, Linda Aoyama and I met at a Club 200 meeting in San Marino. We quickly discovered we both worked for HealthCare Partners in Arcadia. Linda was a member of the San Gabriel Valley Club 200, and I am a member of the San Gabriel Valley Wine & Dine Club (SGVWD). Shortly after we met, we began talking about the possibility of starting a Toastmasters club at HealthCare Partners.

After several discussions with management, Linda was able to explain the value of Toastmasters and how it would help the teammates at HealthCare Partners. She was able to get on the schedule at the monthly Lead Clinician and Site Administrator meeting in February 2015. Linda and I only had 10 minutes on the agenda to persuade those in attendance to hold a launch meeting to showcase what Toastmasters was all about. With the support of those in attendance, we were given approval to hold a launch meeting and move forward with the club prospect.

On April 1, 2015, members from Club 200 and the SGVWD held the launch meeting. Linda Aoyama, Andrew Cardenas, and Ben Bartlett represented Club 200. Division B Governor, Jill Briscoe, Michelle Bender, Jim Raney, and I represented the SGVWD. We were able to get

enough interest to begin the process of obtaining 20 members to charter the club.

Their first club meeting was held on April 8, 2015. We decided on a name for the club, the day, time, and frequency of the meeting. We were convinced the club would charter. We received support from management to file the Application to Organize a Toastmasters Club along with the charter fee. This gave the members an opportunity to receive the charter member kits, along with the Competent Communication and Competent Leader manuals. Now we were ready to start our Toastmasters journey.

From the first meeting that was held on April 8, 2015, our members began using the CC manuals to prepare their speeches. They also followed the leadership track to complete their projects. Club officers were identified in preparation of chartering the club. Guests were invited to the club meetings and immediately wanted to join. Each week we met as a club, our members gained more experience, improved their speaking skills, and became more confident speaking to an audience. We were on the way to charter strength.

Trying to reach the required 20 members in order to charter was within reach. The club needed four members, then three members, then only two new members. Then the membership building stalled. While guests attended, the club had difficulty getting the last two members to reach the required 20. However, after Dan Cossack, Club Growth Director and Toastmasters International President Elect, Mike Storkey, visited the HCP Club to emphasize the value of Toastmasters, those in attendance were

motivated to commit to helping the new club to charter.

In December 2015, the charter member applications and remaining fees were collected. The forms were finalized, signed and submitted to Toastmasters International. On December 18, 2015, the HCP Toastmasters Club #4714177 was finally chartered!

Since chartering, guests have found the club through the Toastmasters International website and club website. One new member was added in January. Another new member was added in February.

The HCP Toastmasters Club celebrated their accomplishments by holding a charter ceremony and officer installation on February 17, 2016. This was their 44th meeting since they held their first meeting on April 8, 2015. Division B Director, Michelle Bender, conducted the charter ceremony. Area B1 Director, Rose Abbott, installed the club officers. Two manual speeches were given by club members and each were evaluated. Two guests attended the meeting, with one submitting their membership application and another ready to attend the next meeting and submit their membership application and fees.

It took a lot of hard work and dedication by all of the members to make the HCP Toastmasters Club a reality. Congratulations to HCP Toastmasters! We look forward to the future success of this club and its members.

Cindy Liebeck, DTM Achieves Triple Crown

by Dennis Popp, ACS, ALB

Cindy Liebeck, DTM, receives the Toastmasters International Triple Crown pin from Dennis Popp, past club president during the January 13, 2016 meeting.

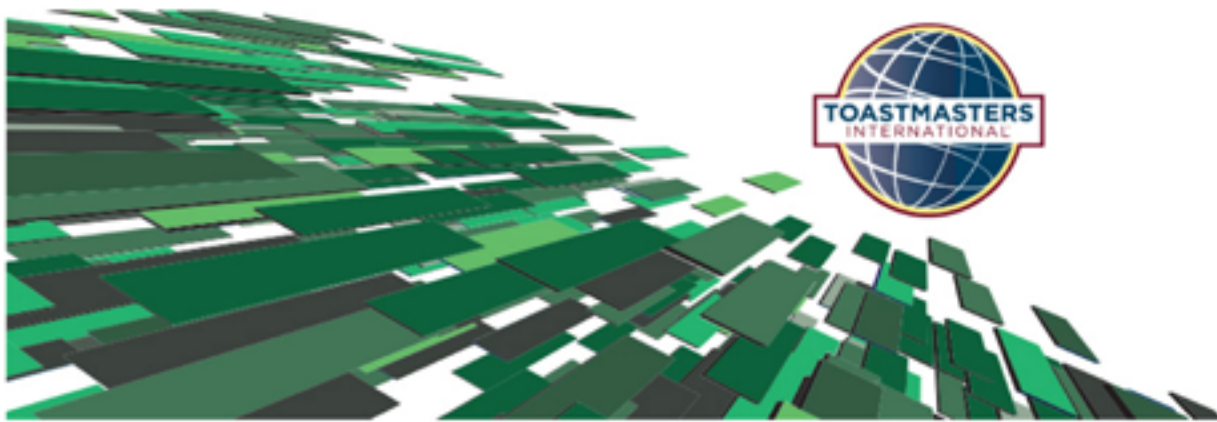
Cindy joined Toastmasters in October of 2010 and the Speak, Lead, Succeed Toastmasters Club (9873) in March of 2013. She is also a member of Experian Club (5410).

“She has used her skills, her warm and caring nature and her persistence to help Speak Lead Succeed Toastmasters Club grow and get better and better. And she has helped Toastmasters everywhere by supporting the International program as a club and district officer.”

Toastmasters International acknowledges the elite among the elite with the Triple Crown Award for completing three educational programs in one year (2014-2015).

Speak, Lead, Succeed Toastmasters Club, a President's Distinguished club, meets every Wednesday at noon at the Mesa Verde United Methodist Church, 1701 Baker St., Costa Mesa. Check the website at: <http://speakleadsucceed.toastmastersclubs.org/>





Spring Conference & Speech Contests

APRIL 30, 2016 8:00AM - 4:00PM

- > Keynote Presentation: Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Rex
- > Community & Leadership Award recipient: TBD
- > International Speech Contest
- > District Business Meeting
- > Grand Opening Ceremony
- > Distinguished Toastmasters Award Ceremony
- > Opportunity Drawing and Silent Auction
- > Continental Breakfast and a delicious Knott's Berry Farm sit down luncheon



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Daniel Rex

As Chief Executive Officer, **Daniel Rex** leads the Toastmasters World Headquarters team in providing service, resources and support to 332,000 members in 15,400 clubs in 135 countries. He works closely with the International President and the Board of Directors to develop the future of Toastmasters and create and execute plans and strategies to reach those goals.

SPECIAL EARLY BIRD PRICING ENDS APRIL 6

Just \$65

Register and select the **Full Day Package** to attend the District Conference with lunch included, or attend just the International Speech Contest for only \$10. The Keynote and business meeting is free.

Register at www.foundersdistrict.org