

JUNE 2017

The Founder

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

www.foundersdistrict.org

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE



Founder's District
Trio-Messages

Huge Thanks To
Michelle Bender

Spring
Conference
& Contests

CHARLOTTE
DRAKE AWARDED
SPIRIT
OF EXCELLENCE

Division
News

...and MORE!

Founder's District:
The Birthplace of Toastmasters



My Hero!

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



For the past four years, I have been serving as your Editor in Chief of *The Founder* newsletter and it has been a fun and enjoyable experience. But I could not have ever been successful with this project were it not for the amazing help I received from Michelle Bender, who currently serves as Founder's District Public Relations Manager.

Quietly, and behind the scenes, Michelle reads every article that is submitted, along with multiple proofs of this publication, and with her superwoman vision, and her exceptional knowledge of grammar and spelling, she catches errors that slip by me and an army of other proof readers. It's almost uncanny how well she is able to do this!

Now, with the district splitting, I am losing Michelle and honestly, I feel as though I will be lost without her. Not only has Michelle been my go-

to proofer, she has also helped calm me when deadlines have come and gone and only a handful of writers have submitted their articles. As a Type-A personality, that's really hard for me to take; but she always "talks me down!"

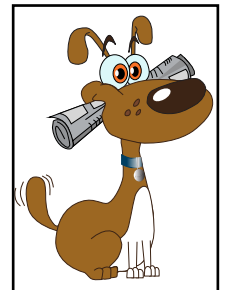
Michelle also is a bundle of positivity. In the years we've been working on this project together, she has never failed to give me encouragement and great feedback. (Just like a

good Toastmaster speech evaluation!)

Michelle has also written some wonderful articles filled with information that every Toastmaster can appreciate. The Century District is lucky to have her, and Founder's District is losing a true gem.

Thank you, Michelle. It has been a pleasure serving with you. You are my hero!

FIND FOUNDER & WIN!



From our last issue, Chandra Persad found our mascot, "Founder" (pictured to the right) hiding on page 13 with the group posing by Mr. Smedley's desk, and page 14 in the window dressing. She scored a \$25 Toastmaster Store Gift Certificate! Founder is hiding again in this issue and the first person who correctly identifies BOTH of his hiding spots will also win a \$25 Toastmaster Store Gift Certificate. Email me at mhulett@coastline.edu with your answer!



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

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Charter Ceremony. AAPA Toastmasters Club was chartered on Saturday, June 10 at University of Phoenix in Pasadena. Lilian Phung is the new Club President. All the members were excited for their new club to become official. Congratulations and best wishes!

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

The information in this newsletter is for the sole use of Toastmasters members for Toastmasters business only. It is not to be used for solicitation and distribution of non-Toastmasters materials or information.





Siri Payakapan, DTM, Ph.D.
District Director

My Toastmaster Journey: From Member to District Director

My toastmaster journey, since June 2006, has steadily transformed me, from a quiet, private member to a confident leader, with continued growth in communication and leadership skills the way Dr. Ralph Smedley had envisioned — Learning by doing.

Direct experience and skills I gained from each leadership role I served have prepared me well to serve as the District Director of this legendary Founder's District.

You might ask, “What are my keys to success?”

Many factors contribute to my success. Let me name a few.

Personal Background and Strength

Coming from a three-generation toastmaster, my passion in toastmaster has been planted by my father's friendly club environment in the late 1960s and, later, enhanced by my daughter's promotion at work from her improved technical presentation skill in the early 2000s.

To me learning is fascinating and energizing. I also find it rewarding helping others learn and grow.

Toastmasters International values—Integrity, Respect, Service, and Excellence are exactly what my parents have instilled in me since childhood.

My education and work experience in the planning field also serve me well in goal setting, coordination with groups from diverse backgrounds, and how to incorporating feedbacks into the planning process, to achieve goals.

Toastmasters Leadership Experiences

Having served three terms as club vice president Education and one term as Club President at Tools 2 Lead Club 921159, I gained enough confidence to step up to division and district leadership roles.

- Appointed by Division Director Sawarnjit Singh as **Division Public Relations Chair**, I learned to publish press release, on division speech contest winners, for the first time.
- Appointed by Division Governor Dan Cossack as **Division Contest Chair**, I gained confidence from assembling multiple teams of leaders from my Tools 2 Lead Club to chair and support venue/facilities, food, registration, contest, and opportunity drawing, attracting 100+ members and guests.
- Appointed by District Governor Ede Ferrari D'Angelo as **Area Governor** and by Division Governor Harry Yan as **Assistant Division Director**, I shadowed Harry who demonstrated to me a wide range of leadership skills, from the Toastmaster mentoring program to conflict resolution.
- As **Division Governor**, I soon found out that not all five area governors were able to attend all required meetings or to contribute their fair share of Division responsibilities at events such as speech contests and new club launch meetings. I reached out for help from other area governors.

- Appointed by Lt Governor Education and Training Harry Yan as **LACE Co-Chair**, I had the opportunity to stretch my planning skills in assembling and leading, fabulous teams of leaders in organizing two LACE events, offering a wide variety of practical topics for members.

- Appointed by District Governor Harry Yan I served as **Public Relations Officer (PRO)**, the role that was way outside my comfort zone. Immediate Past PRO Dan Cossack helped me gain new skills, how to **CONNECT** with all members via E-blasts, E-newsletters, and social media.

- As I was ready to step up to run for the roles of the District Trio, I learned for the first time—how to campaign, producing vision statement, flyer, website, Facebook page, with the help of many including Harry Yan, Marie Hulett, and Frannie Stein.

As **Lieutenant Governor Marketing** my dream team of leaders successfully chartered 22 new clubs. 4 new club teams from 8 divisions; organizing 4 successful marketing workshops with several past district governors as presenters and facilitators.

As **Program Quality Director**, the focus was on my favorite subject—training—club officers at LACE and offer variety of choices for members, train area/division directors- making training more interactive; and planning for the district conference. We had 128 distinguished clubs that year, hence, I received an Award of Excellence in Program Quality from the Toastmaster International President.

As **District Director** this year, I have grown in more ways that I could ever imagined, having deeper and broader understanding of the Founder's District. The fresh insights into the District leadership dynamics together with the members accomplishments, and diverse points of view have enriched my perspective of the world. My Toastmaster passion has grown in leaps and bounds.

Support from My Clubs

Significant part of my success comes from the generous support from all five clubs I have the pleasure of serving as member, namely **Tools 2 Lead Club 921159** (2006-2012), **Vineyard Journeys Club 1507645** (2010-present), **Smedley Club Chapter One Club** (2012-2014), **Le Gourmet Toastmasters Club 317** (2012-present), **Past District Governors/Directors Club 407** (2014-present).

Support from Outside My Clubs

Throughout my Toastmaster journey, I have regularly identified naturally talented and potential leaders, whether at club, area, division, district, or international levels. I looked for team players and reliable leaders. Along the way, I have transformed potential leaders into dynamic leaders.

Many experienced toastmasters, including Dan Cossack (Webmaster), Marie Hulett (Editor-in-Chief), Avis French (Community Outreach), Richard and Linda Daugherty (Photographers), Deborah Reisdorph (LACE), Frannie and Norm Stein, John Barry and Marshall Northcott (New Clubs), Linda Robinson (District Conference), have provided invaluable support to the District during my terms.

In addition to my advisor Harry Yan, several past district governors, namely Lou Ann Frederick (mentoring), John Angiolillo (Data/Directory Chair), Richard Snyder (Special Assistant), Bob Hudack (Club Alignment), Colette Gardner (Operation Manuals and Pathways), and Alfred Herzing (Candidate Showcase) have directly or indirectly expanded my perspective, knowledge, and confidence in my leadership journey. I learned to express my thoughts more diplomatically. I feel more comfortable facilitating communication among people with opposing views.

I have also received support from various **Toastmasters International Staff**, especially at District Services and Order Supply.

One critical support I secured before I set my sight for the District Director was from my husband, **Ranong**, a non-toastmaster, who has chauffeured me around and moved heavy and numerous supplies to all the District events that I needed to attend without any complaints.

There you have it—my journey from a member to district director, which has started from a CHARTER MEMBER in 2006, and now the Founder's DISTRICT DIRECTOR. I have grown leaps and bounds from a planner who was confident only in giving project presentations to meetings—full of planners and engineers—to a confident leader who is not afraid to speak to any size of audience and any combination of demographics.

The toastmaster seed planted in me has spread to many seeds I have planted along the way, I am GRATEFUL to many of you for being my water, nutrients, and my sunshine. Each one of YOU has directly or indirectly contributed to my SUCCESS which is a living proof of the toastmaster brand— **“WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE.”**



Beat the Clock and everyone in your club will be invited to a pizza party viewing of the World

Championship of Public Speaking competition in August. Add 5 new, dual, or reinstated members between May 1 and June 30 and your club qualifies for Beat the Clock and the Founder's District exclusive pizza party.

Toastmasters are taught to run meetings on time, finish speeches on time and reach membership goals on time. In that spirit, “Beat the Clock” is a great motivator for finishing the year on schedule -on time and with record numbers! Make it your club's goal to earn the “Beat the Clock” award and encourage every member to take part.

Prepare now for this membership building contest: plan an open house, host a special speaker, or serve refreshments or lunch at your meetings and invite your friends and co-workers.



Last District Elected Leader and PRM Meeting, June 4, 2017, Outgoing and Incoming officers

Clubs adding five new, dual or reinstated members with a join date between May 1 and June 30 receive a “Beat the Clock” ribbon to display on the club’s banner. Qualifying clubs also earn a special discount code for 10% off their next club order.

The District will also invite the club members who achieve this award to a special screening of the World Champion of Public Speaking to be held on August 26. Let’s build up our clubs’ membership and end the year with a strong finish.

Note: Applications and payments for new members must be received at World Headquarters or submitted online no later than June 30. The addition of transfer and charter members does not count toward “Beat the Clock” credit.



**Diana
Dee,
DTM,
Ph.D.**

***Club Growth
Director***

What have you learned this year?

What have YOU learned this Toastmaster year?

I have had a memorable year in Founder’s District. Working with the other four top leaders of the District has been a great experience because we work well together and are all pulling for a common goal – providing the best experience to our members, and forming new clubs so more people can experience the positive life changes that working the Toastmasters program can provide. From this great experience, I learned that you can get great ideas by listening to others,

and you have at least a few great ideas to give away as well.

In addition to the top 5, there are many, many others who have stepped up and have done an outstanding job contributing to our District. I am in awe of how many people have contributed their talent and their positive attitudes to make things happen. I learned that a lot of talent and willingness to help exist in our membership.

I have learned a lot about myself and about leadership. I think my most important realization was learned in taking on the task of Club Growth Director, having some doubt about whether or not I could do the job. What I learned reinforced the lessons I learned when I served as a Division Director. That is, if you have faith that you will do okay, and if you put out your best effort, and if you ask help from others, and if you envision success, you will do just fine!

Because of the wonderful experience I have had with taking on leadership roles that I was not sure I was ready for, I want to urge you to do the same. Do something that you think will stretch you! It will. I promise you will be happy that you did, because of the personal growth you will experience, and the satisfaction you will get from helping others.

I would like to know what YOU have learned this Toastmaster year. What success have you had? What made you feel good about yourself?

Go to the Founder’s District Facebook page ([facebook.com/FoundersToastmasters](https://www.facebook.com/FoundersToastmasters)) and post a reply to “What have YOU learned this year?”





**Michelle
Bender,
DTM
Public
Relations
Manager
PR
Update**

The Toastmaster year of 2016-17 is winding up. We will have new leaders taking over for Founder's District and our newly formed District 100.

What will the future bring? One thing is for sure, there are always opportunities in Toastmasters. When I first joined the District leadership team, it seemed like just a short time ago. We gathered together at Siri's home, where we got to know each other. We had weekly call-in meetings and in-person meetings to keep each other updated.

We had changes to our team early in the year, with Chris Collins joining as Club Growth Director (North). He and Diana worked together to help each other grow new clubs in the District. It was amazing to see all the new clubs being chartered.

John Angiolillo gave me helpful reminders to get the PR team in place as he was publishing the directory. I was thankful to have so many volunteers for the many roles needed. It was always hard to find experienced photographers to donate time. Luckily, Lawrence Crandall and Jennifer Kwan took pictures at events, along with our very own Dan Cossack. It is great to see so

many pictures being shared on social media as well.

It has been a wonderful learning experience through all the events, trainings, conferences and workshops. I enjoyed the social media trainings which were suggested by Vernon Budinger to help our members learn about social media strategy and how to use various social media outlets. Silvia Swigert assisted with the Meetup training. Bill Stafford gave a training on how to make videos on your IPAD. And Jennifer Kwan gave a training session on how to maximize Toastmaster resources.

We've had a great newsletter team this year with Marie Hulett as Executive Editor and Chandra Persad as Newsletter Editor. Steve Itzkowitz submitted many detailed and interesting articles about events throughout the District. We had a contest in every issue, to see who would be the first to find "Founder" in two places. I am always amazed at the wonderful design and layout, and the interesting articles. Thank you to those who contributed articles/pictures and updates for the newsletter.

We also had PR Contests: Social Media, Diamond Web, and Founder's Film. It was great to see the submissions and we had a team of people to choose the winners. Congratulations to our Spring and Fall winners who took the time to enter into the contests.

We also promoted events throughout the District such as club anniversaries, contests, LACE training, workshops, and other special events. I hope you had an opportunity to attend many of these events during the year.

Please watch the Founder's TV site at: <http://www.foundersdistrict.tv/>. Our team of videographers have worked diligently during the

year to post new and interesting videos. They are: Lourdes Ortiz, Jon Hartowitz, and Greg Stevenson. Ceara Crawford is the Executive Producer and Chris Gregory is the Program Manager – they oversee the monthly videotaping and develop the programs. Dan Cossack and Michael Varma continue to guide and mentor the team.

Have you seen the new website? Dan Cossack has enhanced and created new reports. Be sure to log in and see the new updates: <http://my.foundersdistrict.org/> I know it has taken countless hours, and Dan has done this on his own time. Thank you to Dan for his expertise on the website, Trello and Slack.

I also want to acknowledge our Judges Bureau Chairs: Avis French and Trey Stroud, who help to find volunteers for various judging opportunities at local organizations such as Rotary Clubs and other events such as Academic Decathlons.

We also have the Speakers Bureau Chairs: Victor Broski (South) and Carl Walsh (North) who have promoted the programs to assist Toastmaster members to become Qualified Speakers and take their speaking skills to new levels.

Our Mail Data Chair, Ryan Matsunaga, has assisted with reviewing correspondence sent out through the District mail channels. He also helps our team by reserving the Kaiser facility for many Toastmasters events.

I also want to give a big thank-you to my two Advisors: Dan Cossack and Ligia Molina. I am thankful to both of them for being on the PR Team and assisting me with issues that came up during the year.

As we now look to a new Toastmasters year, I will transition to helping the new PR Managers and being a resource to them when needed.

As I look back, I thank my team for all their time and efforts to bring the news of the District to our members and beyond. It has been a memorable year!



Siri Payakapan, Diana Dee, Michelle Bender, Karen & Mark Lucas, and Dan Cossack at Candidate's Showcase.



Public Speaking as the Ultimate Form of Service

By Steve Itzkowitz, CC, CL

With the end of yet another year for Toastmasters very close, there was a revelation that came out of the Founder's District spring Leadership and Communication Experience that is sure to set the tone for the near year that will begin in less than 3 weeks. Speaking is a service.

It was the underlying message of the keynote address delivered by the Founder's District International Speech Competition Champion and professional speaker/ trainer, Daniel Midson-Short, in which the focus of his speech was about emerging speakers and the lessons he has learned on the path to becoming a professional speaker.

To go along with a rather profound message of proclaiming that speaking is a service by which value is added to the members of an audience, Daniel offered up some great tips and suggestions for anyone that is serious about delivering more speeches out of Toastmasters as a professional speaker.

The first set of tips is encompassed in a simple number:

100

What that number symbolizes is

the number of times to do the same speech once it's developed to eventually lead anybody to becoming a full-fledged professional speaker. After all, practice does make perfect and a lot of success in public speaking to infer from Daniel's advice is repetition, repetition, repetition. Or, as Daniel put it, consistency and volume leads to speaking greatness.

That said, he went even deeper in his advice for emerging speakers regardless of where an individual speaker may be in their particular development by informing the audience of the 3 keys to going from 0 to giving the same speech 100 times. Those include:

1. Know your topic
2. Find the audience that will be most receptive to the message of your speech
3. Deliver those 100 speeches on the same topic.

He also mentioned that getting known for a particular topic, regardless of the subject matter, can lead to other people finding audiences for that speaker, which can really spark a career in public speaking when it comes to frequency of opportunities to deliver a speech.

As important as the aforementioned tips are, it's even more important to develop the right mindset to ensure success as an emerging professional speaker. Fortunately for the audience, Daniel had words of wisdom to offer by pointing out the mistakes often made by rookie professional speakers.

1. Trying to be perfect.
2. Thinking it's about the speaker

through worrying about such things as physical appearance or having a high level of nerves because a bunch of eyes are looking at you. As a speaker, it's important to devote all your energy and passion towards the audience and not worry about details that only the speaker is concerned about.

3. Not listening. What Daniel meant by that is how aware is the speaker of the mannerisms of the audience as he or she is delivering his or her speech. These mannerisms can include nodding, falling asleep, audience members turning away,

human moments that we all experience in this life.

At the end of the day, and in the part of Daniel's keynote address that offered up the most crucial advice he can offer to emerging professional speakers was advice centered around what matters most when it comes to giving a speech.

1. Audience response
2. Clear consistent message

3. Connecting with the audience

That's because what audience members take away from any professional speaker's talk that could add value to their lives is the whole point of effective public speaking. That's why a clear consistent message is very crucial to being successful in that endeavor.

All in all, those that joined Toastmasters to not only improve their



audience members who are distracted, folded arms and legs and other signs that the audience can offer up to let the speaker know how much they may or may not be engaged by what the speaker is saying.

Of course, the most successful speakers are the ones that can engage the audience in a way that is humorous. That humor, according to Daniel, is brought out by simply being real and the speaker sharing real stories about himself or herself that will help the audience relate to the speaker that much better because it's amazing how much audience members and a public speaker may share in common in terms of those

public speaking skills, but to take those skills and parlay them into professional opportunities got more than their money's worth from one of the best in the business. Now, it's time for those emerging speakers to put the information into practice and make Founder's District proud as Daniel certainly has done with his contest speaking and now his professional speaking.

Then, the service that is public speaking will always shine through and Toastmasters along with Founder's District will continue to touch the lives of others in such an empowering and enriching way.



Thanks for the Memories

by Siri Payakapan, DTM, Ph.D.

As I reflect back to my 2016-2017 District Director journey—the Expand Your Horizons journey, I feel gratified and satisfied with what we have accomplished from our collaboration.

We set our priority to the most basic approach—“Members first” and sticking to the core values of Integrity, Respect, Service, and Excellence.

We have built upon the excellent foundation that our past leaders have laid out, brick by brick, over the past 73 years.

We encouraged members to share success stories to inspire others as a means to grow quality members and clubs.

This year, Founder’s District’s base club size of 231, ranks 9th in the world. We have the trio of five, 10

division directors, 52 area directors, and Immediate Past District Director, a total of 71 District Officers, the largest number through the history of our District, we have expanded our horizons as a team and explored several new or modified approaches. Let me give you some examples:

1. Communication among top eight officers We not only meet in person monthly, but also weekly via conference calls and utilizing available technology, such as:

- Trello— a project management applications for planning and tracking progress of district programs and events.
- Slack— a team collaboration tool, organized by topic, committee, subcommittee, and direct messaging.

2. Assistant Area/Division Directors We encouraged area and division directors to appoint up to two assistants and we trained all of them together with area/division directors. As a result, we have a qualified

replacement each time a director resigns. We also have leaders ready to step up for next year. We also persuaded Toastmasters International to authorize name bases or all assistants.



Toastmasters at memorial for Debi Morales's Mother

3. District Executive Council or DEC meeting - making our training and meeting more interactive among our division and area directors,

we found that not only we have effective collaboration experience, division directors and area directors team up to help each other at area and division events. Free admission to the meeting also helped. Results—we have a healthy quorum at every DEC meeting.

4. [my.FOUNDERSDistrict.org](http://myFOUNDERSDistrict.org) helps members track their own achievements as well as their club, area, and division.

What we have accomplished this year are many. Our number in May for membership payments, paid clubs, and distinguished clubs are well above the previous 6 years. We are on track to achieve Distinguished if our members continue to complete communication and leadership manuals, paying dues, and adding more clubs and members.



5. Inspired by Toastmasters International Midyear Training, Founder's District hosted the FIRST Founder's District Candidates Showcase, last Saturday, chaired by Past International President, Distinguished Toastmaster Alfred Herzing. We also provided a wide range of leadership exhibits chaired by Distinguished Toastmaster Frannie Stein. Even though it was an Easter weekend, 59 attended.

6. LACE In addition to a discount to members from clubs that had all 7 club officers attend previous LACE, we offered free of charge for club officers who don't require lunch. Result—many club officers were able to attend their required session and had time for their other priorities.

7. Reaching for the Stars to track not only members achievements on communication and leadership tracks, but also on participation in Toastmasters events. We had more members getting involved with District activities.

Time flies when you are having fun!

I am confident the next teams of leaders we have just elected on April 22nd will take our Founder's District, and the newly created District 100 to new heights. Continue to expand your horizons to benefit from what Toastmasters can offer.

Thanks for the memories.





Spirit of Excellence Awarded to Chandra Persad by Ligia I. Molina DTM

Chandra Persad, DTM began her Toastmaster's journey in 2005. Attending a Toastmasters Von's/

Safeway Company Open House at her workplace, she was "mesmerized" by Von's CEO actively promoting the value of Toastmasters. She joined and her Toastmasters career has been stellar.

Personally, professionally and spiritually, Toastmasters has been a great influence in her life. It has been a great joy, satisfaction and personal reward for her to be of service, Toastmasters being the path to reach goals in creativity, self-confidence, and transformation. She is passionate about Toastmasters and lives by the concept, "It's all about the club member."

Chandra's profession is in Information Technology. She also worked as Adjunct Professor at Pasadena City College from 1993-2003.

Her success as a club leader has brought her to serve in leadership roles at Founder's District, having been recognized with honors.

- Club Toastmaster of the Year, 2005
- Area Toastmaster of the Year, 2007-2008
- Area Toastmaster of the Year - Founder's District, 2007-2008
- Area B4 Toastmaster of the Year, 2012

She has served as Division B Governor, Founder's District Secretary and Chief Judge. Currently, she

serves as Newsletter Editor for the "Founder." These experiences have converted Chandra into an effective, humble leader, ready to serve, be part of the team and do her best. Active at Words of Hope Toastmasters Club #699690 in Duarte and ACTS Toastmasters Club #416 in Pasadena, Chandra believes in guiding and providing support to the club member, thus developing them into future leaders.

Mentoring is one of Chandra's strong commitments. Despite health limitations, she continues mentoring "Speaking of Glory" Toastmasters in Azusa; she is inspired by the dynamic and professional character of the club.

Chandra's volunteer vocation has extended to serve at her Church, as Eucharist Minister at Masses, Special Eucharistic Minister for the home bound, Mother Mary Visitation Ministry, St. Vincent of Paul Society, and Faith Formation Catechism. Her faith in the Catholic Church has given her a special calling to serve God, Church and her community.



Chandra's Toastmaster's journey is a continuous path to achieve goals of growth, friendships, leadership, and communication through all the programs offered by Toastmasters: Open House, Youth Leadership, SpeechCraft, Contests, Mentoring, and especially the Club Meeting.

Her journey continues with love and passion for Toastmasters. Founder's District is proud to honor and recognize Chandra Persad DTM with the "Spirit of Excellence" award, for her dedication and many years of outstanding service.



Leadership Opportunities in the Coming Year by Michelle Bender, DTM

There are lots of opportunities for leadership in the upcoming year. What is it that you would like to achieve? You may have started out as a club officer, and club president and now you want to challenge yourself to something new. Or you may be looking for ways to achieve your ALB, ALS or DTM award.

The District has many opportunities for leadership. The new Division and Area Directors have been voted in, and they will each be recruiting for a team of volunteers to help them succeed. Some of the openings include Advisors, Contest Chairs, Assistants, and possibly to help with PR (or webmaster, social media expert, photographer, videographer, or news writer), and many more.

During the year, the District leadership team will also be looking out for new club mentors and club coaches (to help struggling clubs). The new clubs team will look for people to help with demo or launch meetings. This an exciting opportunity to help with chartering a new club in your area.

There are also opportunities to get involved with Youth Leadership and SpeechCraft. Both are very rewarding opportunities. Do you want to be a paid speaker? There are opportunities to get involved in the District Speaker's Bureau.

If you like to judge, you can take training to be a judge or even a chief judge. We also have outside judges who volunteer their time in the community (such as Academic Decathlon events).

LACE training is another avenue for volunteer opportunities. There are opportunities to be LACE Co-Chair, a presenter or room monitor, or to help with set-up / registration.

If you like event planning, you can help with the District Conference. There are hospitality volunteers, registration volunteers, opportunity drawing volunteers, and contest toastmasters and many other volunteer roles.



Division C Volunteers from left to right, Chris Gregory, Assistant Division Director, Randy Kleinman, Division Director, Marie Hulett, Assistant Division Director, Jeremy Davis, Division Advisor

If you want to be involved, just reach out to your club president, Area Director, or Division Director. We are a volunteer organization and we would not be successful without volunteers.

By volunteering, you can learn new skills which will help you in your career. Plus,

you learn teamwork and many other transferable skills. Why not challenge yourself to become involved as a volunteer and help our District 100 or Founder's District to be successful in 2017-18.

If someone reaches out to you for a new Toastmaster volunteer opportunity, say YES! By becoming a volunteer, you will enhance your leadership skills and help to make a difference in 2017-18!

Division D

Help Wanted

The Division Directors-elect are starting to form their new teams for the coming new year. Division D, lead by David Shostak, DTM, PMP has nearly 40 years of professional business experience as a Certified Senior Project Manager in the high tech world and twenty-three years in Toastmasters. David is also one of the fathers of GPS Vehicle Navigation for your automobile. He lead a team of 55 people in 2003 to achieve this commercial product and his company made \$150 million the first year. Magellan GPS Vehicle navigation product was one of Oprah Winfrey favorite products in 2004. His goals and objectives for Division D are:

Vision: David envisions our club members to possess the highest level of skills. Division D enables, encourages and supports its members to take on leadership roles, mentor, coach, and teach leadership principles, and as a result, empowers its members to accomplish and surpass their personal goals.

Mission: David believes Division D is a high performance leadership division whose primary focus is on achieving and sharing excellence in everything they do as Toastmasters.

Tag Line: **SPEAK, LISTEN, LEAD, ACHIEVE**

David has assembled a staff made up of highly experience personnel with top-notch credentials.

To name a few people on his staff acting as advisors are; Norm and Frannie Stein, Michael Varma, Mary Berg, as well as other spectacular people.

David is looking to add leadership positions. There is a need for three Area Directors. One key benefit to being a leader in Division D is that under David's Leadership, he guarantees to help you become a better person. You will learn a lot about best practices for Leadership principles.

As an area director, you serve a vital role in Toastmasters. Of all district leaders, Area Directors are the closest to clubs and members and are a direct link between them and the division and district. It's a rewarding role with many responsibilities. In the role of area director, you can enhance your own communication and leadership skills while giving back to your community of Toastmasters.

Marketing and Branding Advisor:

There is a need for someone with strong Marketing and Branding experience. This person would come up with ideas on how Division D can better Market and Brand. David would like to see the WOW factor out there... "Look at Division D they are really unbelievable and incredible in what they have accomplished."

Webmaster:

Looking for someone with good skills to build a great Web page for the division.

Member Retention Advisor:

Division D is in need of someone who can come up with ideas on how we can have much better member retention. A champion on getting people to stay with their clubs.

Division C Excels!

By Randy Kleinman, ACS, ALB,
Division C Director

Division C is thriving in many ways as we come to the close of the Toastmasters year. Division C is proud to say it has more paid clubs than its base. Division C started the year with 22 clubs in its base, and is now at 23 paid clubs.

Division C was the first Division to become Select Distinguished and is now President's Distinguished Area C-5, with Kim McFee as Area Director, is already Select Distinguished, and with a chance to become President's Distinguished as there is a club in formation in the Area. Area C-2 is Distinguished; Area C-4 is Select Distinguished. All five Area Directors have worked tremendously well as a team, with successful contests and strong support to clubs. We are looking forward to several more Distinguished (or above) clubs in our Areas.

Major efforts were taken by all Area Directors to assure that as many clubs as possible got their dues in. A couple clubs were in great danger, but they pulled through with more than eight members. One of them is even getting close to Distinguished status, needing only two more members to reach their "+5" status.

Division C will continue to be prominent in the coming year. Chris Gregory, current Assistant Division C Director, will become District Public Relations Manager. Marie Hulett, also an Assistant Division C Director this year, is continuing on as the District's Editor in Chief of The Founder Newsletter and Asad Ali, current Area C-4 Director will become Division C Director..



Want Ads

Founder's District, Public Relations is looking for Key Personnel

WEBMASTER One of the most prestigious jobs in the district. Toastmasters Founders District is looking for a Joomla expert who would like to manage our foundersdistrict.org website. Our website which is one of the most creative and heartfelt in the organization as our webmaster has put his heart and soul into preserving and maintaining the integrity and history of our founder Dr. Ralph S medley. Although not a financially rewarding venture it is indeed one of those continuing esprit-de-corps ventures that preserves our foundation's history. We are looking for someone who truly takes it seriously and is willing to put their blood, sweat and tears into it and although there is no financial gain there is the world presence and the esteem of preserving our founding father's integrity.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR To help manage the instruction District wide for Meetup, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc. and any current electronic media the users may need or the District deems to implement. Please contact PRM at lchrisgregory@gmail.com



Avis French Receives Spirit of Excellence Award By Frannie Jordan Stein, DTM, Ph.D

What are you doing to thrive in your job? What are you doing to stay proficient, active, quick-witted, vigilant and productive... to be the professional you would like to have on your team?? Observe Toastmaster, Avis French, in action. Better yet, work on one of Avis French's Orange County community service speech contest judging teams. You will learn a lot, you will be well fed-(outside organizations show their gratitude with good food) and you can add the community service to your resume and LinkedIn.

What can happen when you get to know Avis French, Chair of Founder's District Community Relations Committee Judges Bureau? Avis, like the rental car agency, will get you where you need to go. Avis is your link to Orange County business contacts. If you are a Toastmaster, seeking to expand your horizons beyond your job and beyond Toastmasters, consider working with Avis, to serve as a judge for high school speech contests sponsored by:

- * National Management Association Speech Contest (4-level event for high school students)
- * Lions Club Speech Contest (for high school students)
- * Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) student events
- * Rotary Business and Professional Leaders Club
- * DECA Career and Technical Student

academic and speaking competitions

- * HOSA Health Occupational Students academic and speaking competitions
- * Academic Decathlon (3-level event for high school students)

Wait, there's more. If you would like to experience what there is to be gained by working under the skill and guidance of a natural Project Manager, find a way to help Avis French with any project she is currently undertaking. Contact her: Avis French, Judges Bureau Committee Chair- South, 949-667-0682 community@foundersdistrict.org Avis will welcome you and in return you will experience the rare opportunity of working with a professional who possesses the winning combination of technical skills and soft skills, in balance.

Are you seeking a High Performance Leadership Project? Seek Avis French before you make your decision. Working with Avis on any project will focus on the whole picture and take care of every facet of the whole with efficiency at every level.

Another name for Avis is "Proactive!" With Avis there is certainty, energy, and efficiency in time effort. How did Avis, (and how can YOU,) accumulate the leadership soft skills competencies of writer, editor, speaking power effectiveness, delegation and collaboration expertise? It all started when the New England native arrived in California, went to work at Unisys (global information technology company,) combined Fine Arts and Computer Programming at Cal State Fullerton to have a career as a technical writer, and joined Toastmasters, at the invitation of Unisys colleague, Collette Gardner.

Armed with the Toastmasters opportunity to practice, practice, practice, plus having the weekly benefit of an audience dedicated to providing support and motivating feedback,

Avis grew her communication skills. She joined a complementary professional organization in Leadership Development: NMA/ National Management Association. She became active in Unisys's community outreach program: 'Business in Education Partnership' and began coordinating programs that connected her with Junior Achievement and with other service and educational organizations that sponsored speech contests for students, which led her to serve on the Board of Saddleback Valley School. She has served on the Board continuously, since 1984.

Another organization with which Avis began a partnership in 1984 was the Orange County Chapter of the American Red Cross. Avis has been using her project management and communication skills to conduct blood drives, as many as six drives per year.

With fellow Toastmaster, Mary Berg's urging, Avis became Chair of Founder's District Community Relations Judges Bureau and has served the Judges Bureau Community Outreach Program since 2002.

Avis is a community link treasure. She is known, respected and the recipient of many awards, acknowledging her contributions to expanding the horizons of Orange County's future leaders. She received Founder's District highest award: The Gene Beckwith Memorial Award for extraordinary service.

Working with Avis, in extending communication and leadership education to the Orange County community, through Founder's District Community Relations Judges Bureau, assisting with judging and assembling judging contests, offers Toastmaster members a platform that can catapult confidence, connections and career opportunities.

What are you doing to thrive in your job?

Consider being a volunteer intern, assisting Avis with Community Outreach projects. Take advantage of the wisdom and experience of the Project Management mindset and the benefits that await you: Contact Avis French.

News from Division A

By Jeff Lee, ACB, ALB, Division A Director

In the most unique way, on April 13, 2017 during the club meeting, the members of Crystal Clear Club 9332 voted to name

the annual Toastmaster of the Year Award "The Springer Award."

The award is named after Fred and Wilma Springer who are charter members of the club and have been with the club since day one when the club chartered in April 1993.

What was so unique about it? It just so happened that Wilma Springer was working toward her Advanced Communicator Gold award and she was teaching the module from the Success Leadership Series, "Parliamentary Procedure."



Wilma had no idea the club was going to make a motion that evening to name the club's Toastmaster of the Year Award, "The Springer Award".

Prior to the meeting, Wilma asked club member and Area A-2 Director John DiGioia to make some type of motion so she could give the club a demonstration on how to properly make and handle a motion. To say the least, the stage was set!

During Wilma's presentation, when she asked John for a motion, Crystal Clear President Laure Sachar went to join Wilma at the lectern and briefly took control of the meeting. John made the motion that the club name the annual Toastmaster of the Year Award "The Springer Award" and the club membership without hesitation unanimously approved the motion.

It was a wonderful moment to be part of. The Springers have given so much over the years to Crystal Clear Toastmasters and its members. The Springers have also served various Leadership roles in Founders District. Wilma was the District Governor in Founders District during the 2001-2002 term. Thank you Fred and Wilma for all you do.



Fred and Wilma Springer

In other Division A News...Time definitely flies when you are having fun. It is hard to believe the Toastmasters year is almost over. I am very proud to report that Division A in the second half of the Toastmasters years had 84.35% of its club officers trained.

The Area and Division Contests were a blast. I would like to thank the Area Directors in Division A for all of their hard work and dedication during the Toastmasters year. Area A-1 Karen Thompson, Area A-2 John DiGioia, Area A-3 Gary Olive, A-4 Lauren Eichenauer and Area A-5 Barbara Stickler. I would also like to thank the other members of the Division A team for their hard work and dedication during the year.

Assistant Division Directors Paul Fay and Mike Sokolovich, Secretary Linda Alfaro, Treasurer Kevin Carson, Sergeant-At-Arms Linda Jaeckels, and Division A advisor Donald Herrera.

I would like to thank everyone else who played any part during the year such as helping in a contest etc. Each person in Division A brought their own unique set of skills and strengths which played a big part in the success of Division A during the year.

It was wonderful to see each Division A team member learn a new set of skills and polish skills they already had. This past year is a time in my life I will never forget.

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Division Director A this year.

Jeffrey Lee, ACB, ALB
Division A Director



Charlotte Drake DTM, Receives the Spirit of Excellence Award

By Frannie Jordan Stein, DTM, Ph.D

Have you heard the expression, “Power behind the throne?” Can you name someone who for several years has been a “Power behind Opportunity Drawing Fundraising?” Who do you know that is able to mount that project, and make it fun for everyone while doing it?

The answer is: Charlotte Drake; she is an “Opportunity Drawing Master.” Charlotte volunteers her service at speech contests, setting up the gift tables, donating prizes, describing the prizes, and selling the drawing tickets that off-set contest food and venue costs. When the contests are over, it’s Charlotte and her team who have earned solid returns to cover the expenses of producing speech contests.

Whatever the event, Charlotte is known for her generosity of service: she arrives earlier and stays later than anyone else. She sets up, cleans up, and brings abundant portions of hand cut fruit. She is chef of the gourmet crafted foods she brings.

Whether it is a formal meeting or a casual gathering, once she has arranged and set up the room with gifts, food, and learning materials, you will find Charlotte, at the back of the room looking out for the needs of every person, whether there are two or two-hundred people in the audience. Charlotte handles problems

before others even notice them.

Charlotte has had more than her share of challenges. What sets her apart is her resilience, her sunshine attitude and the way she transforms obstacles into opportunities. She triumphs over tragedy. When confronted with the struggles of both of her parents dealing with Parkinson’s Disease, Charlotte founded what became an international support group known as PEP: Parkinson’s Educational Program. What started out in Newport Beach, at Charlotte’s Park Newport residence, quickly grew from 4 to 300 people and proliferated into satellite support groups in every state in America, then expanded into 13 countries and five languages.

Charlotte provides the same “obstacles into opportunities” resourcefulness in Toastmasters. Her club, HarborLites, is all about supporting members’ needs. She sees HarborLites as a “safe harbor” where individuals grow and develop in the presence of mutual nurturing and mentoring.

In 2014/2015, Charlotte’s personal excellence earned for her the DTM – Distinguished Toastmaster,

which is the highest educational award. She was also recognized as Toastmaster of the Year and received the Area Governor of the Year Award. In 2015/2016 Charlotte was awarded 4 Triple Crown Awards, an unprecedented record.

For her indomitable spirit, on March 22, 2017, Charlotte Jayne Drake, DTM, was awarded Founder’s District Spirit of Excellence Award, presented to her at the District Executive Committee meeting, by District Director Siri Payakapan, DTM.





Talking up Talk Up Toastmasters

By Steve Itzkowitz, CC, CL

It was a night to celebrate the clubs that talked up Toastmasters to recruit new members as part of Talk Up Toastmasters. It's one of the biggest new membership pushes of the year. The culmination of which was 56 attendees showing up at the Victory Baptist Church of Anaheim to get educated, get entertained, get fed pizza, chicken and pastries for desert and get honored for their membership recruitment efforts.

Before writing the results of the most successful clubs for Talk Up Toastmasters, it should be noted that attendees were entertained through playing games that encouraged networking and learning as well as live music and comedy as if we were right back at the Spring District Conference.

One game was Toastmasters Bingo that encouraged Toastmasters to walk around from table to table to gain initials from other Toastmasters based on accomplishments of those Toastmasters that ranged from volunteering at a contest to being an Area Director to achieving a high level designation like Advanced Communicator Gold and much more.

It was a chance for Toastmasters to make new friends and for Toastmasters to beam with pride over being able to initial a portion of the bingo sheet showing them some of their wonderful accomplishments as part of their overall Toastmasters experience. It was also an opportunity for a Toastmaster to score a \$15 gift card to Starbucks. The lucky winner of that was Edward Hill.

Deborah Reisdorph conducted an educational session called the "The Best Kept Secret of Toastmasters." One of the aspects of the game was participants coming to realize the skills they have either developed, improved or both as part of their overall Toastmasters experience and making note of that. It was a great exercise to realize the first secret, which is developing and improving skills that are transferrable and applicable outside of Toastmasters like one's career or family life.

However, the best kept secret of Toastmasters goes much deeper than that.

In speaking with one of the event hosts, current Area A-4 Director, Lauren Eichenauer, talked about the relationships aspect of Toastmasters and how those relationships tend to be rekindled and reinvigorated when we come together for special events like this event, a district event, division event, whatever kind of event may be occurring.

To sum up what Lauren was talking about, being involved in Toastmasters long enough and showing up to special events on a regular basis will give members the benefit of extended family.

One of the best feelings is reuniting with individuals one admires and respect after an extended absence because we all have lives to lead. Eventually, those Toastmasters begin to feel like family because they are asking you about Toastmasters and about the goings-ons of your daily life. That's the true best kept secret of Toastmasters and why more than half the people that join Toastmasters tend to stick around for years on end. That feeling was pervasive throughout the Talk Up Toastmasters event.

In terms of the clubs that were successful in recruiting 5 new, dual or reinstated members during Talk Up Toastmasters, 10 clubs qualified and were honored at the event. The club that established the pace by recruiting 11 new

members was Irvine Toastmasters followed by Edison Power Lines Club with 9. There were several clubs that recruited 6 new members as well.

Entertainment was enjoyed by the attendees in the form of live music with some comedy, especially from our very own David Kline Lovett. David opened up his comedy bit by saying, "Some of you know me. Some of you will get to know me.

The rest of you can consider yourselves lucky." He eventually finished his bit by showing the audience his mastery of the corpse pose part of his regular yoga classes. The corpse pose involves him lying on his back and then pretending like he can't move. He also dazzled with the playing of a beautiful wooden flute.



Long time and Distinguished Toastmaster, Ed



Smith, amazed the audience with his magic, especially his magic cards. Rod Johnston entertained the audience with his acoustic guitar. Between all that and everything else



that occurred at this special Talk Up Toastmasters event, it was an experience no one would soon forget. Special thanks



go out to Jeronimo Silva and Mike Crosby for their contributions to the entertainment portion of the event.



At the end of the day, the district got fortified with new members as while Toastmasters reignited their friendships with members from other clubs and celebrated being part of such a great organization and great district.

Diana Dee, current Founder's District South Club Growth Director, did a masterful job of producing and running this event. Founder's District North Club Growth Director, Chris Collins, was particularly integral to the success of the event by providing the facility where the event could be conducted at.

As usual, Founder's District leaders rallied together to ensure the production of an event that would be enjoyed fully by all who attended.

On to Beat the Clock...



Inspiring Club Member, Judy Turpen, DTM

By Ligia I. Molina DTM

Ten years ago to be exact, I was new in Toastmasters, in awe when I listened to seasoned speakers give speeches that moved me, gave me knowledge and made me laugh. I was invited to join The Advanced Communication and Leadership Training Speakers Bureau Toastmasters Club 416. Just saying the name was enough to make me wonder “What I am doing here?”

And that is how Judy Turpen entered my life. At the ACTS Club meetings, I looked forward to getting to know Judy and hearing her wonderful speeches. During her speeches, I was taken by the dignity and elegance of her demeanor, the clarity of her voice, and the depth of her topics. She commanded the podium with assurance, connected with the audience, and yet, she spoke with humility.



In my mind, I wondered, how could I become a speaker like Judy? What was her magic? How did she hold the audience’s attention so well? I noticed they were connected to her every word.

The magic is the story of her life. Judy’s “clan,” her family, are a vivacious mix of German, Irish, English, Scottish, Latin, Cuban, African and North American Indian. No wonder she has the ability to reach the audience!!

Outgoing and public service oriented, she began her working career as a bank teller at the Citizen National Bank. She even managed a roller skating rink! She then owned and operated her book store, developing skills in hiring and staff supervision. Judy worked for 18 years at the Christian Education Association International, where her writing and editing skills continued to develop. She was the spokesperson for radio interviews and she coordinated and planned conventions from start to finish.

In 1989, she began her Toastmasters journey, when she joined the Jacobs Engineers Toastmasters Club (JETS) in Division B. Her speaking and leadership skills developed in the Toastmasters program. She became a charter member for the Advanced Communication/Leadership Training and Speakers Bureau in the early 1990s. The new club acquired a charter from a defunct club in Newport Beach, and ACTS was born. There was no Speakers Bureau in Division B at that time, so ACTS became a great addition to the Division.

Sadly, most of the records from the ACTS’s transition period have been lost. Judy worked with the membership through the years to keep ACTS at charter strength. Judy had the privilege to work with our Mentor, Steve Smith. Steve began the task of sending ACTS club members out to the community to speak to various local organizations such as the Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Women’s Clubs, schools and other venues. With Judy as one of the pillars of strength in ACTS, the club has excelled in developing speakers that have achieved fame and some of them achieved fortune.

Not only does Judy have great speaking skills, she has also excelled as a highly skilled evaluator.

She considers that one of ACTS strengths and priorities is the development of outstanding evaluations skills which help to motivate and encourage the speaker. She has the ability to find the best in the speech and with finesse, tact, and sensitivity, she provides effective suggestions for improvement. ACTS speakers welcome her evaluations as a learning opportunity.

Judy was honored as Club Toastmaster of the Year in 1999 and Area Governor of the Year for B2, in 2005..

She has served in many roles at the District level, including at the Conference Credential Table and Registration Table. She has served as Contest Chair, Contest Judge and many other roles to support her club, area and division.

Her outstanding speaking skills motivated her to compete in at least 13 International Speech Contests, and she made it to the Division and District level. She has also competed in Table Topics, Evaluation, Tall Tales and Humorous Contests. She has participated in the Youth Leadership Program, High Performance Leadership, and Speechcraft.

Now, please tell me, what happens when a club member has served in every capacity in Toastmasters? Yes, Judy became a Distinguished Toastmaster!

Judy believes in new learning opportunities. A year ago, in a collaborative project with Dankai Lui, Judy planned, organized and executed the six month “Bamboo Ceiling” workshops, aimed to assist Chinese professionals to enhance soft skills and learn about western culture to help them succeed in the work place.

Judy has been a dedicated, generous and loyal club member. She has shared her wisdom, experience, and communication and leadership skills with her fellow club members for over 25 years. As a Board and club member, she faithfully attends club meetings and events. And she lives in Anaheim where she has to drive from Orange County to Pasadena during peak traffic hours to be with us.

Judy’s husband, Forrest, has just retired. Now, a new chapter is ready to be written in Judy’s life as she transitions to a new residence in Buckeye, Arizona. Their 54 years of happy married life will continue as they enjoy time with their family including children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

We at ACTS are grateful to Judy. Her life is an inspiration to all of us, as a role model, a mentor, a teacher and a true friend.

Congratulations Judy, you are truly an **INSPIRING CLUB MEMBER!!**





A New Beginning for Founder's District Coincides with the Beginning of District 100

By Steve Itzkowitz, CC, CL

There was a palpable buzz in the air.

One big, established district would share the wealth of its vast membership with a new, up-and-coming district to create a more enriching experience for its members.

Founder's District and District 100 celebrated this crucial development during the annual Officer Installation Dinner at the Knott's Berry Farm hotel.

In a room on the top floor of the hotel adorned with golden drapery, white-clothed tables, Knott's famous fried chicken platters en masse and wall-to-wall Toastmaster leaders, the anticipation of a new Toastmasters year was felt by everyone in attendance.

Outgoing Founder's District Director, Siri Payakapan, set the tone for the serious side of



the evening. In her outgoing address, she spoke of learning by doing. Given Siri's 11-year run in Toastmasters leadership, she is certainly the epitome of such a philosophy of learning by doing.



More important, she helped her leaders expand their horizons, her mantra for her year as District Director, by encouraging individual members to step out of their comfort zone as well as to seek out assistants that represented potential successors to the leadership post that individual member was willing to take up.

The most important benefit of asking members to assist is helping those individual members to expand their horizons as well, which leads to a more enriching and empowering Toastmasters experience.

Then, it was time to have fun installing the new officers in each district.

Past International Director, Richard Snyder, installed the division and area directors for Founder's District with POWER and a power drill prop. POWER is an acronym that Richard broke down for the benefit of the attendees in which each letter stands for something that is crucial to being an effective division or area

director:

P is Promote the Distinguished Club Plan

O is for open communication

W is for working and developing new club leads

E is for every month hold a council meeting

R is for Recognition = Motivation in which it's important to remember the member, the very wise words of current

Toastmasters International President, Mike Storkey.

One would say that Richard really drilled the message home with his drill and his POWER that got each division and area director really excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

Past District Governor, Tamala Takahashi, installed the District 100 division and area directors in which she provided a toolkit in the form of a manual for each leader. The manual is filled with great information and helpful tips that will prove to be very valuable to the inaugural District 100 class of division and area directors.

Immediate Past International Director, Ede D'Angelo, installed the Founder's District

managers and Club Growth Director, Lori Shapiro. Each leader in these particular posts got a gift as well as the button that says, "Ask me about Toastmasters."



Past International President, Alfred Herzing, installed Darren Kwee as the inaugural District 100 Club Growth Director. Given Alfred's passion for building new Toastmasters clubs, he was the perfect individual to install Darren, who is poised to do a great job this upcoming year.

Past District Governor, Lou Ann Frederick, installed

Founder's District Program Quality Director, Diana Dee. Lou Ann spoke of Diana needing to share her expertise like an efficiency expert so she doesn't have to do all the jobs herself. It's a great point in that at the end of the day, a leader is only as good as the people he or she empowers and entrusts to assist in a very

important mission of making sure clubs and members are working the program to eventually become Distinguished Toastmasters.

Current International Director, Michael Osur, installed Mark Lucas as the inaugural District 100 Program Quality Director. As part of the installation, Michael

offered Mark a book on leadership, a bottle of Ripple for future celebratory purposes as well as a clown nose. Given Michael's passion for Toastmasters and his sense of humor, these gifts



to Mark were definitely apropos.

Past International Director, Ray Brooks, installed Dan Cossack as the next Founder's District Director in which he gave a book to Dan entitled, "Take People With You". That's another great point and something that Dan knows very well given his successful experience as both a prior club growth director and program quality director in Founder's District.

In Dan's inaugural address, he spoke of the kindness of words and how crucial it is to offer kind words to each individual we come across because of the difference it can make in the mind of the person being offered the kind words.

From personal experience, Dan is very good at offering kind words. Before becoming Founder's District copywriter and the News Blitz anchor for Founder's District TV, I remember the very words Dan said to me that were as kind and inspirational as they could be. He said, "I see something in you." That is why Dan figures to be a very successful District Director for Founder's District. He definitely



understands the importance of recognition as a way of motivating members to contribute to Toastmasters every way they can.

Alfred Herzing installed Karen Lucas as the inaugural District 100 Director. Karen's message as part of her inaugural address was simple, direct and laced with passion:

Mission first, members always.

That's what it comes down to for Toastmasters leaders. We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence. If all the leaders keep the members in mind as that mission is carried out, then District 100 will become a powerhouse of providing service to its members at every turn while making a positive, everlasting impact on

the communities it represents.

Now that the old leaders have been celebrated

and de-installed and the new leaders have been installed and congratulated for stepping up, it's time to get to work and have a lot of fun doing so.

Here is to

District and District 100 serving the clubs and the members to the point where each district becomes a President's Distinguished district.

So to it...



South County Toastmasters Celebrates 3rd Anniversary!

By Caryn Rinaldini, ACB, CL

Our South Orange County Toastmasters Club recently celebrated its 3rd anniversary. We annually hold a celebration to take some time to acknowledge our members. Everyone in the room was acknowledged and awarded a prize for their various achievements.

We started off by acknowledging and celebrating anniversaries – we have members who have been with us for 1 or 2 or 3 years. Then, we acknowledged members who have achieved a Toastmasters award – whether it be a CC, CL or ACS.

We then went on to celebrate our members' accomplishments outside of Toastmasters. One member, Rosemarie Allarie recently spoke at a large convention out-of-state. She said "I am much more comfortable in front of an audience after my 6 months in Toastmasters. Helping me hone my public speaking skills with a friendly, supportive and fun group - our Dana Point Club is the best!" We had another member who was recently given a promotion at work. A third member recently received her Teaching Credentials. We all recognized how important this was to her and we were so happy to share the joy. The most emotional achievement was that of one our members who recently received a college B.A. He worked so hard at this while continuing with his career and participating in Toastmasters. We all felt part of the excitement, as he often used his speeches at the club to prepare for his degree in

Communications. Each one of these members attribute a good portion of their success to Toastmasters, and to our club in particular.

Our club may only be 3 years old, but we

have been "President's Distinguished" each year. I always get asked why our club is so successful and the answer is easy: We work hard and play hard. Meetings are fun and creative but at the same time, the standard is high. Everyone comes prepared and if we find ourselves without a grammarian or timer, we seamlessly find a substitute without missing a beat. We are very supportive and have a family-like environment. With all that said, we take each meeting very seriously. Evaluations are honest (and can be brutal!), but always helpful.

Member Dr. Frances Stein, DTM, exclaims, "Our club is special because we are, each one of us, unique connoisseurs of the art of living; we laugh and have fun doing it together."





Division I - Incredibles Team

*by Lori Shapiro, DTM
Division I Director*

As we head into the last few weeks of our Toastmasters year (2016-17) I reflect on what our Division, Areas and Clubs – accomplished this year.

CLUBS: The Division supported 23 clubs, lost one (AutoClub had to disband), and chartered Ultimate Software club 5/9/17 and expect SSA Eckhoff club to charter by the end of May. We had ALL clubs pay dues the first term, and all but two paid dues for the second term.



AREA VISITS: The Area Directors – I1, Kathy Hughes, I2, Ashley Chau, I3 Paul Hollands, I4, Brent Felsted, and I5 Claudia Cabot, diligently visited their clubs and submitted 100% of their Area Visits – FANTASTIC! The second round is in progress and we are on target to submit all reports by the May 31st deadline.

CONTESTS: We planned and executed FOUR Area and Division contests, clubs sent some amazing speakers to our Spring and Fall contests. Congratulations to the Contest Chairs – and

THANK YOU to all judges and volunteers that help put on the contests. And, thank you to Mesa Verde United Methodist Church, Broadcom and Capital Group for hosting these contest and other Division activities.

TRAINING: Many club officers attended LACE – both North and South. And, we offered two makeup training sessions with Division J, for club officers, one had record breaking attendance – over 120 attendees, and 101 officers trained. We achieved just short of 70% officers trained this Spring.

DGP: Currently we have five distinguished clubs, with more on the verge of being distinguished – still have until the end of JUNE to become Distinguished! ALL DIVISION I Clubs that become Distinguished will be acknowledged at the (FREE) Division I Executive Council Meeting & End of Year Celebration held on Monday evening, June 19th at Mesa Verde United Methodist Church. Distinguished clubs will be awarded fabulous prizes too!



SPECIAL 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR EXPERIAN CLUB

On Thursday, May 4th, Experian Toastmasters Club celebrated their 30-year anniversary. They had a very nice celebration at their North

American Headquarters in Costa Mesa, CA. Siri Payakapan, DTM, District Director, Jake Weinberg, Past Club President, and Diane Beall, DTM, past Experian club member 10+ years ago, were featured speakers. The Club President, Curt Frieden, presented an appreciation plaque to Laurie Jerome, the VP of Talent Management at Experian, who also spoke to the group. The club provided cake, and sparkling cider and we all had a great time acknowledging the longevity of this outstanding corporate club. Congratulations Experian Club. Thirty years is a long time for a club to thrive.



This has been an exceptional year for Division I, we were here just one year to help support the split of Founders District. Next year, no more Division I. It was an INCREDIBLE year so far, and we look to finish the year STRONG and DISTINGUISHED.

Keep up the great effort Area Directors and Club Leaders.



Toastmasters Find Their Why at Founder's District Spring Conference

By Steve Itzkowitz, CC, CL

There were plenty of options that the 150 attendees of Founder's District last combined district conference could've pursued instead of actually attending the conference.

Attendees could've slept in, watched Saturday morning cartoons with their kids, painted the town red on Friday evening, ran errands or simply relaxed after a long, grinding week of work. Yet, they showed. Why?

Only those attendees knew that.

Whatever the "why" was, it was a very strong and a very indicative of the value they are gaining from Toastmasters and learning to apply to their everyday lives and the lives of others.

Keynote speaker and current International Director, Michael Osur, challenged each Toastmaster to identify their why for both joining and remaining in Toastmasters.

This kind of challenge gives great insight as to why people join and stay in Toastmasters.

Most people join Toastmasters to improve their public speaking skills. Each and every member that completes the competent communicator manual does improve significantly at public speaking because of the skills that each manual speech requires a member to

develop to be successful at that speech like vocal variety, getting to the point and speaking for inspiration.

However, Toastmasters loses 40% of its membership each renewal term. Why do the other 60% stay?

The predominant reason from Michael's talk was the relationships people develop while in Toastmasters and the opportunities outside of Toastmasters those relationships can and do lead to. These relationships start at the club level and then start to snowball when members are willing to step outside of their club to attend special events like an area contest, LACE, a district conference or the granddaddy event of them all, the International Convention, which is coming up soon.

That's when the power of Toastmasters really starts to permeate a member's soul about how Toastmasters can and will change their lives when they immerse themselves in ALL it has to offer.

And, the Founder's District's, as we know it, last Spring Conference offered more to its attendees than meets the eye in terms of reasons to show up.

The other keynote speaker, Past District Governor, Naomi Takeuchi, offered a workshop on building one's international network. The main idea being that when Toastmasters travel to no matter where it may be, chances are there are Toastmasters members and clubs in those locations that can make sure a traveling Toastmaster feels right at home. Talk about a HUGE benefit of being in Toastmasters.

Accredited speaker and past district governor, Sheryl Roush, offered a workshop entitled, "The Heart of

Marketing” in which each attendee received a handout with some valuable information on how clubs can attract more prospective members and then convert those prospects into actual recruited members. One of the highlights of that handout are the 38 “buzz” words that clubs can use on their marketing genres that motivate prospects to take quicker action on joining a club through increasing sense of urgency including such words as “today,” “safe,” “amazing” and “breakthrough.” Sheryl also shared information on creating amazing flyers and social media campaigns using these buzz words that will make the lives of club Vice Presidents of Public Relations much easier.

What’s even better than that is the very same information a club Vice President of Public Relations can use to market his or Toastmasters club is the same information a business owner or entrepreneur can use to promote his or her business. It’s just another benefit of being part of Toastmasters, which is learning skills that are transferrable to other crucial aspects of our lives like our careers.

There was even instruction on ballroom dancing, which added a lot of value to the conference. Then, there was the matter of Saturday night. Aside from enjoying a tasty dinner, conference attendees were treated to something that had never been presented in any prior Founder’s District conference. That was live music.

With that in mind, Melissa Wong and Amy Oakes dazzled the audience with their soulful vocal ability. Mike O’Neil provided us with excellent guitar solos. The music show represented variety, talent and Toastmasters who are supremely talented in the art of music. Even Founder’s District Director-elect, Dan Cossack, and his guitar instructor, Michael, joined Mike O’Neil for a group performance in which Dan showed off his progress as an aspiring guitar player, which really points out how

well-rounded he is. The whole experience was reminiscent of a Saturday night at a Toastmasters International Convention and really added a very special element to what was a very special conference.

Overall, there was something for everybody at this conference.

Of course, no conference is complete without electing our new leaders as well as seeing who the winners are of the Table Topics and International Speech Contests.

Congratulations go to John Breb for winning the Table Topics contest. In second place was Leslie Martel and third place, Carolynn Bramlett. And who was the International Speech Contest winner? None other than our favorite Aussie, Daniel Midson-Short, who will represent Founder’s District at the semifinal for the World Championship of Public Speaking. This is his third bid to the semifinal in the last 4 years. In second place was last year’s Founder’s District winner, Josephine Lee and third place was newcomer and one to watch, Christine Coles. Congratulations to all our winners!

The new leaders for what will be a renewed Founder’s District are as follows:

District Director, Dan Cossack
Program Quality Director, Diana Dee
Club Growth Director, Lori Shapiro
Division A Director, Paul Fay
Division B Director, Kathy Hughes
Division C Director, Asad Ali
Division D Director, David Shostak
Division E Director, Nadine Nofziger
Division F Director, David Hosmer
Division G Director, Ken Spears

The very first leadership council for the brand new District 100 will include the following individuals:

District Director, Karen Lucas
Program Quality Director, Mark Lucas
Club Growth Director, Darren Kwee

Division A Director, Nora Jackson
Division B Director, Trillium Smith
Division C Director, William Wojciak
Division D Director, Mark Longanecker
Division E Director, Steve Itzkowitz
Division F Director, Scott Friedman

Very special congratulations go out to the special award winners that were announced at the Founder's District Spring Conference. Firstly, the Gene Beckwith Memorial Trophy, which is awarded to a Toastmaster that best exemplifies the humor, wisdom and leadership of Gene Beckwith, distinguished toastmaster and past district director, was presented to distinguished toastmaster and past international director, Richard Snyder.

The Roy D. Graham award, which is awarded to the area director who has the most attendees at the district conference, was awarded to area D3 director, Scott Friedman, for the 2nd time this year.

Finally, the Spirit of Excellence award winners were Jon Hartowicz and Steven Ball.

We also recognize the winners of the Public Relations awards as follows:

The Diamond Web 1st place award winner was past district director and distinguished toastmaster, Harry Yan, for his web work with Irvine Lunchtime Toastmasters.

The 2nd place winner was also Harry Yan for his work for FCBC FV making it a clean sweep for Harry.

1st place winner for the Founder's Film Award was Jennifer Kwan of the Communicators Club. Jennifer's one minute video was creative and entertaining.

Thanks for the memories, Founder's District. Now, we are ready to blaze new pathways to a renewed Founder's District and a brand new District 100.

What will be your why to be part of history in the making?

Jon Hartowicz, ACB, ALB – Spirit of Excellence Award Winner Inspiring Others and Making a Difference in the World

Who do you know that you would describe as a Renaissance Man - a person whose expertise spans



a significant number of different subject areas, who is one of the most versatile persons you will ever meet?

Founder's District's answer to a member with all-

around capabilities, someone who is present at all District events, busily recording on video tape, hundreds of images and sounds of people you probably know and recognize. Who is this camera operator that volunteers hours of time engaged in video production, focusing on sound, lighting and gathering electronic images of us and our fellow Toastmasters? Add to videotaping, the prep, the follow up meetings and emails associated with collaborating on a television production team, and who is the volunteer service professional that emerges?

Jon Hartowicz is the man behind the television camera. Since 2012, John has been the videographer on the Founder's District Television team, headed by District Webmaster, Dan Cossack, DTM. Founder's District brings to viewers many different interviews, speaking tips and event highlights. But wait, there's more!

Jon joined the Achievers Club in 2008 and has served as videographer since 2011. He is a charter member and videographer of the Christian Century Club, where he has served as videographer since 2012. He was a 2011 charter member and videographer for the former Founder's Officers Club. Thanks to Jon's digital, electro-mechanical, data storage and YouTube

expertise, members have been able to receive review copies of their speaking presentations and contest practice performances.

People turn to Jon as the “go to” resource for help with technical questions. He holds a Master’s degree in Computer Science from UC Irvine, and a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and Economics from UCLA. He is a wiz at fixing things and generous in helping people solve tech problems. In marketing terms, Jon’s brand could be: Jon Hart o wicz - “Heart-of-a -Wizard!” Easy to remember!

Jon has served as web designer, as well as every officer role for Achievers Club. He is active in Achiever’s Individual and Team Mentoring Program. He is currently VP of Education in both of his clubs. He has taught fellow members the ins and outs of projection techniques to add power and impact to their presentations. He is happy when putting together statistical projections and reports about all varieties of topics. In this capacity, he has served as Founder’s District Statistician. He has served on the District Conference Minutes Approval Committee. He has delivered public debates on Belief Systems.

Behind the scenes, when not giving hours of field production to Founder’s District and club responsibilities, Jon is a Real Estate Broker, Property Manager and the Administrator of a private Developmentally Disabled Health Care Residence. He is a Technical Engineer for Patient Transfer Lifts, and serves on the Board of Realty Investment Association of California. Jon Hartowicz is a “Jack of all trades, and master of many,” quietly inspiring and making a difference in the world. Founder’s District is proud to present the Spirit of Excellence Award to Jon Hartowicz.

Steven Ball, ACB, ALB – Spirit of Excellence Award Winner



Steven Ball joined Toastmasters in 2011, aligning with Caltech Toastmasters in Pasadena. This was a club that had no members remotely close

to his personality, background, education level, or job description. He had the courage, however, to become the first person to represent the club as a speech contestant outside of the club environment.

Since joining Toastmasters, Steven has exemplified “going clubbing” by visiting over 325 clubs in several states, and logging in over 650 hours in calls to fellow members to support, mentor, and yes, even a few times to Rock the Vote.

While in service to Toastmasters, he lost his father, then a few months later, his mother (2,800 miles apart). The skills acquired in Toastmasters assisted in the success of being a key manager in both estates and working through a very difficult time for the family. Our program is often cited by Steven as a conduit to add value to others’ lives.

In this program year (2016-2017), Steven:

- completed the coordinator role for a Speechcraft project,
- attended/supported every District Learning Lab and many council meetings, contests, and other Toastmaster events
- became a Charter member of The Standard Bearers Club
- was awarded Club Sponsor for the recently chartered Oklahoma Libertarians Club-District 16
- served as the District Club Quality Chair

And he is only eight speeches away from his Distinguished Toastmaster award!

Steven may have made an offer to go fishing with you. Or you may have been stunned, seeing him (finally!) don a suit recently at our Spring Conference when he was awarded the Spirit of Excellence. You may have had a lively late-night discussion in a parking lot about growing new clubs with this member, or had the benefit of seeing a recent Division B Council keynote on member retention (where Area Director Mark Longanecker was ducked taped to a chair to vividly illustrate his point).

Steven exemplifies commitment, dedication and tenacity, leaving an indelible, positive mark on both Founder’s District and District 100. Congratulations to Steven Ball for this well-deserved award!

In Loving Memory of Celly Adamo

By Frank Adamo



Celly Adamo, DTM

Founder's District Governor
2006-2007



Celly F. Adamo, DTM, PDG 2006-07, passed away peacefully Wednesday morning, June 7, 2017 at approximately 3:28 AM at the Los Alamitos Medical Center. She was with her daughter, Christina, and her husband, Frank.

Celly was a member of Knotts Speak Easy since joining in 1993. She soon became an Area Governor, Division C Governor, and then District Secretary. Celly became District Governor in 2006-07 and achieved the first Distinguished District award in five years. She is the only District Governor in which all eight of her Division Governors achieved President Distinguished status.

In 2013 Celly had a bilateral mastectomy after which she went through six months of Chemo and radiation treatment. She was cancer free up to just over a year ago when the cancer returned in the bones and the liver. After additional Chemo treatment, it seemed that the liver cancer had vanished, though the bone cancer remained.

Throughout all this time, she was working for AT&T until about a month ago, when she took a medical leave. Then within 3 to 4 days into her leave, her liver began to shutdown causing fluids to stay in her body. She was still quite

functional, but much slower and sluggish than usual, and the fluid buildup was quite extensive. She looked like she was 10 months pregnant—with triplets. Finally after urging urging from her husband and daughter, she went to the ER.

She was sluggish, but relatively coherent and conversive. With the help of dear church friends from church, she arranged her own funeral arrangements. However, the toxins from the fluids began to affect her other organs.

She was taken to ICU with extremely low blood pressure. Throughout her last day, she was unresponsive, though she had several relatives and classmates visit her.

Then she passed comfortably and peacefully a bit before 3:30 am, June 7, 2017. Though cancer can be a painful and drawn out part of love, Celly was uncomfortable, but never in pain—at least not until the last few short hours.

Celly's ashes will be interred at the Christ Cathedral on Saturday, July 8, 2017 for anyone who might want to attend.

