

TOASTMASTERS DISTRICT ONE



District Newsletter

September 2016

Greetings District 1!

What a **fantastic** start to what is promising to be a **fantastic** year! We started off the year with an inspiring TLI led by Program Quality Director, Julie Broady and her team. Over 400 of you were trained as club officers at that event! Congratulations, officers, for rising to a new level in your leadership journey.

Toastmasters embraces servant leadership. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve... You only need a heart full of grace, and a soul generated by love."



I want to encourage you to be guided by the love you have for your fellow members and clubs. Continue to serve, learn, and mentor those around you. Celebrate each other's victories and encourage one another to keep growing. **Together we can** accomplish so much more. As we embark on this new journey, we will celebrate your growth and accomplishments in Toastmasters and beyond. Go forth and be great!

Together We Can!

Jessica Allen, DTM
District 1 Director

Save the Date: Check out all the upcoming fun and educational district events listed on our **back page**, from contests to open houses to training events. More details can be found on our [District One Event Calendar](#).

Smedley Award: We are so excited that some of the clubs are taking advantage of the Smedley Award. The clubs that add 5 new, dual, or reinstated members from **Aug 1 thru Sept 30th** will get a **\$75 Toastmasters gift certificate**. Keep those members coming!

Dues are Due: Beginning **Oct 1**, individual members' dues will increase to **\$45**. There is a new Toastmasters rule: "there is **no grace period** for membership renewals." So let's get those dues turned in!

Remember that when your club submits their dues on time, they will have the opportunity to gain one Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goal. It can't get any easier. **Starting September 1st you can go online to get dues renewed! Just log in at www.toastmasters.org and click on "Club Central" to get started.**

Be a September Sensation Club: Submit your dues on time and receive a **\$20 Toastmasters gift certificate** when you reach your member base of **13-19 members**. It gets better. Your club receives a **\$50 Toastmasters gift certificate** when they submit at Charter strength (**20 members**) and greater. Woohoo!

On your phone go to www.District1Toastmasters.org, then **PROGRAMS**, then bookmark the **Awards and RECOGNITION** link and share the great news with your clubs. They will be happy to strive for all these incentives.

District One Vision:

"To have a unified team conveying the same message of 'Together We Can' and empowering individuals to become better communicators and leaders. We will accomplish this through consistent communication, training and recognition of our members and their accomplishments."

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Sherwood Jones delivers his International Speech Contest Finals speech in D.C.

Member Spotlight: Sherwood Jones

If you're a member of District One Toastmasters, chances are you recognize this name.

But did you know that this year, Sherwood made it all the way to the International Speech Contest finals in Washington D.C.?

[This article](#) will tell you all about how he got there.

District One's First Accredited Speaker: Eldonna Lewis-Fernandez

If you could major in Toastmasters in college, you might think of a CC as an associate degree and a DTM as a bachelor's degree. But just as higher education doesn't stop at the bachelor level, Toastmasters offers another credential in public speaking achievement beyond DTM: the **Accredited Speaker**.

Accredited Speakers are a much rarer breed than Masters Degree or even Ph.D. holders. In fact, since 1981, only 69 individuals have received this recognition (you can see the list [here](#)).

Of those 69 people, the first and only representative of District One to earn this distinction was **Eldonna Lewis-Fernandez**, who became the **68th Accredited Speaker in the world** this year.

If you see yourself speaking outside the walls of a Toastmasters meeting or contest venue and truly leaving a legacy through your speeches, Eldonna's story is sure to inspire you.

You can read about her incredible journey [here](#).

You can also learn more about what it takes to become an Accredited Speaker [here](#).

...and if you meet Eldonna or Sherwood at an upcoming Toastmasters event, be sure to tell them **congratulations!**



Eldonna Lewis-Fernandez on stage in D.C. for the Accredited Speaker audition.



Lakewood Toastmasters has a lot to smile about.

Club Spotlight: Lakewood Toastmasters

You probably recall how you felt when you first joined Toastmasters: fear, uncertainty, and a desire to push through it all in order to better yourself.

But what if you no longer feel the same excitement and drive you had when you started? How can you rediscover that spark that ignites your desire to grow?

Past District Governor David Kitchen shares three secrets to how his home club, Lakewood Toastmasters, has kept their members engaged for so many years.

1. If at first you don't succeed, try something else.

Like almost every club, Lakewood Toastmasters had its struggles.

As a company club, they took a major hit after their host company, Boeing, had to downsize. David recalled that by the time he first visited the club in 2000, "there was only one guy and a bunch of tables and chairs."

But rather than folding, the club reinvented itself as a community club with a new core purpose: instead of serving a company's values, they served their members.

2. Treat your members as individuals.

Each new member was asked two questions: "What led you to join our club?" and "What are you looking for?"

Some people wanted to grow as speakers, others as leaders. Many just wanted an excuse to get out of the house. The club did its best to cater to each member's needs, which in turn gave members a sense of purpose.

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Newly-Chartered Clubs

Starting a new club requires hard work and a belief in the value that club provides.

Congratulations to our first club to charter since July 1, 2016:

Digital Toastmasters

Location:

Manhattan Beach

Meeting Times:

Every Wednesday at 5pm

Key Notes:

- *Restricted Membership*
- *Club President, Junius Ho, recognized as Mentor of the Month*

Club Spotlight: Lakewood Toastmasters

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3. Set high expectations.

Sometimes just having a desire to improve isn't enough; we need to be thrown into the deep end of the pool. Lakewood Toastmasters works hard to push its members towards using their skills and achieving their goals.

Those who want to be better speakers are encouraged to speak not just within the club but at contests and other events. Aspiring leaders aren't just mentored as club officers but steered towards becoming district leaders. If someone loves to write, they may be put in charge of a club newsletter.

But Lakewood Toastmasters holds the club as a whole to the same high standards that it places on its members.

Each year, becoming a President's Distinguished club isn't just a goal, it's an expectation. To this end, February 2014 marked the inception of a club contest called the "Amazing Race." The members split up into teams that competed by giving speeches, filling leadership roles, and recruiting new members. Within 8 short weeks, the club had jumped from 4 DCP goals to 8 with more to follow. They've continued the Amazing Race tradition each year with great success.

Through their efforts, Lakewood Toastmasters has continued to soar. They consistently experience high membership and meeting attendance. They've had members go on to become Area, Division, and District Governors. They've been President's Distinguished for 8 years in a row. And they still have fun.

Share this story with your clubs.

If you want to continue your Toastmasters journey and help others do the same with a new sense of excitement and purpose, look to Lakewood Toastmasters for inspiration. Recognize when your club needs to make a change. Support the individual needs of your members. Push those members towards growth opportunities. In doing so, you'll create an environment where people will want to keep coming back and will strive to improve themselves and each other.

Save the Date

(Get the details on the [District One Event Calendar](#).)

Congrats to all of our contest participants and winners. Keep up the good work!

Thu Sep 1	JusticeMasters End-of-Summer Bash	Mon Sep 19	Club Growth Meeting
Wed Sep 7	Win Your Contest Presented by Follow The Leader	Mon Sep 19	F1 & F2 Area Contest
Thu Sep 8	A2 & A4 Area Contest	Wed Sep 21	Steering Committee Meeting
Fri Sep 9	B3 & B5 Area Contest	Fri Sep 23	D2 & D5 Area Contest
Sat Sep 10	C1 & C2 Area Contest	Sat Sep 24	E3 & E6 Area Contest
Mon Sep 12	F4 & F6 Area Contest	Mon Sep 26	B6 & B4 Area Contest
Tue Sep 13	A1 & A3 Area Contest	Wed Sep 28	C3 Area Contest
Wed Sep 14	C4 Area Contest	Thu Sep 29	Club Sponsor & Mentor/ Club Coach Training
Fri Sep 16	D3 & D6 Area Contest	Thu Sep 29	B1 & B2 Area Contest
Sat Sep 17	C5 & C6 Area Contest	Fri Sep 30	D1 & D4 Area Contest
Sun Sep 18	Spiritual Well-Being TM Open House Picnic		

Congratulations District One!



District One members on stage receiving the 2015-2016 Distinguished District award.

Share Your Content!

If you have a story, announcement, or other content you want to share, don't hesitate!

Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- ⇒ Pitch your idea before composing a full-blown article so you can be confident your contribution will be a good fit.
- ⇒ Focus on content that will inspire, educate, or otherwise benefit our members.
- ⇒ Standard topic areas include member/club spotlights, events, and awards/other recognition. We welcome new ideas.
- ⇒ Article length should be around 250-500 words.
- ⇒ Articles should be submitted in Microsoft Word format (.doc/.docx).
- ⇒ All content is subject to editing.

Send your ideas and drafts to the following email address:

michelledarlington.toastmaster@tmdistrictone.org