



↑ **Voices Around the World District 84 Conference.** The District Conference is from May 14 to 15, 2021 at the Embassy Suites Orlando - Lake Buena Vista South. Synergy collated a 12-page supplement with the program schedule, keynote speakers, educational sessions, and all you need to know about Conference (S1 to S12).

Together Everyone Achieves More



DISTRICT 84 TOASTMASTERS

SERVING CENTRAL AND NORTHERN FLORIDA

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

April 2021

IN THIS ISSUE

Spring Renewal

by Ramdeo Andy Seepaul, DTM, District 84 Newsletter Editor

"Spring unlocks the flowers to paint the laughing soil." — Bishop Reginald Heber

Thanks to our mild Florida winters, spring sprang weeks in advance of the official March 20th start date. Many of my favorite flowers (daffodils, Japanese magnolias, dogwoods, camelias, and wisterias) have bloomed, making way for coreopsis, gerberas, roses and many other species that paint the Florida spring landscape with every color of the rainbow. As the earth undergoes a transformation of life and color from the "springing up" of plants, spring is symbolically a time of renewal, rebirth, and reawakening for mankind.

As we enter the final quarter of the 2020-2021 Toastmasters year, this is an opportune moment to reflect on our individual and club goals and rework our plans to achieve them. Just as spring takes advantage of the soil and sun, we should leverage District 84's support to ensure all Clubs achieve excellence (Page 2). There are many ways of weeding through the noise to achieve our individual and Club goals (Pages 4 and 5).

Like spring, Toastmasters is transformative. To adapt to this change, we must embrace, encourage, and enjoy the changes (Page 7). Mentors help us blossom. W.C. Blackmon shares the power of distant mentors who inspired him to hone his craft as a speaker and writer (Page 8). Times of transition are a test of our leadership mettle. Being persistent and resilient may lead to many triumphs (Page 13). Answer the call to serve as an Area Director (Page 3) and you may reap significant benefits that will propel your personal and professional growth and development (Pages 11 and 17).

Although I love the verdant landscape punctuated by splotches of color that spring heralds, I suffer from seasonal allergies. If you have a Toastmasters 'spring fever' symptom, check out Dr. T for suggestions and cures (Page 14).

Don't forget to check out the Conference Supplement for everything you need to know about the District Conference in May (Page S1 to S12).



Spring Cleaning

Paula Summa, DTM, shares tips on how to complete spring cleaning to achieve individual and Club goals. Page 4



Blossoming with a Distant Mentor

W.C. Blackmon, DTM, shares how three professionals serve as distant mentors to help him hone his craft as a speaker and writer. Page 8



Resilience, Persistence and Triumphs

Patty Goodwin shares how Driven by Destiny continues to defy the odds during the pandemic. Page 13



Voices Around the World Conference Supplement

Synergy collated a 13-page supplement with all you need to know about the District Conference in May. Page S1 to S12



Cartoonist Koki Kubo illustrated our District 84 Director, Pim Parpart, Program Quality Director, Debi Jo Londono and Club Growth Director, Paula Summa springing into action to finish strong as we commence the final quarter of the 2020-2021 Toastmaster year.

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Finishing Strong: Stay Focused and Leverage District Support

by Pim Parpart, DTM, District 84 Director



Pim Parpart

Dear District 84 Toastmasters,
By now I am sure you have paid for your membership renewal. To be a Club in good standing, your Club must have a minimum of 8 members. Do not be that one member who forgot to pay your dues.

The 2020-2021 Toastmasters term will end on June 30th; did you accomplish everything you set your mind to? How close is your Club to become a Distinguished Club? How can you help to make it happen? The District 84 Leadership team is standing by to support you in every way to help your Club achieve excellence.

Regardless of where you are, finishing strong is what counts the most. You want to set your Club up for a good start on July 1st. Even though we have less than 3 months left, there is still plenty of time to give more speeches and host an Open House to bring in new members.

I know Zoom meetings will be around for a long time, so take advantage of the Zoom technology and invite guest speakers to make your Club meetings more interesting and attract visitors.

Do some members want to meet in person and others want to continue with Zoom? Try a hybrid meeting, offering the best of both. We have many experts in our District who can help you set up your own Club hybrid meeting.

Let's do it! Let's do everything we can to help our Clubs to be strong and vibrant. The person who will benefit the most is you! ■

District Leadership is Springboard to DTM

by Debi Jo Londono, DTM, District 84 Program Quality Director



Debi Jo Londono

Ever find yourself waiting until the last minute to complete a project? Isn't it funny that when you realize there is a deadline looming, you suddenly make the time and get it done? You spring into action!

Have you been a Toastmaster for a while who has been meaning to complete a District position in order

to get your DTM? Have you been waiting for the right time to serve as an Area Director?

There has never been a better time than now to serve as an Area Director than now. We only have a limited number of positions available. **Only 1.5%** of the total membership has the opportunity to be an Area Director this year.

Will you complete your 2nd path in the next 18 months? If so, you want to reach out immediately and find out if you can join the District Executive Council for the upcoming year.

What does an Area Director do?

- Offer guidance to the Clubs in your Area
- Make scheduled visits to your Clubs
- Conduct Area Council Meetings
- Motivate and assist each Club in the Area to become distinguished
- Coordinate an Area speech contest

You will learn how to do these things in the Leadership training provided by the District. You will also be a part of a team that works together to achieve the District mission which is to "build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence". Your team will learn together, grow together and achieve together. You will enjoy being part of something bigger than yourself, and you will know that you are making a difference.

Spring into action right now! Submit your application to become an Area Director for 2021-2022 by clicking on the link: <https://form.jotform.com/210735510239146>

Do it now and by this time next year you could be well on your way to adding those three letters to your name: DTM - Distinguished Toastmaster! ■

Reaping the Rewards

by Paula Summa, DTM, D84 Club Growth Director

Looking back at the accomplishments in District 84 for this year makes me smile! What's ever better, is that we still have a few months to go! I know the following numbers will continue to grow between now and June 30th.

As of April 1st, here are some things to celebrate in District 84:

597 New Members

8 New Clubs Chartered

26 Clubs the 1st round and **28** Clubs the 2nd round earned Notable 9 award

4 Clubs both rounds earned the Incredible 20 award

120 Members earned the Triple Crown Award
WAIT! There's more....

Over **50** Club Coaches were assigned this year
and **2** Youth Leadership Programs were conducted.

Let's continue to reap the rewards of our efforts this Toastmasters year! Happy spring! ■

Conference Book Ad Sales Leaderboard

The winner of the VIP table at the District 84 Voices Around the World Conference in May, 2021 is Division E. A heartfelt appreciation to all Divisions for participating in this campaign.

Division E — \$1665	Division I — \$610
Division B — \$1605	Division G — \$525
Division D — \$1245	Division C — \$350
Division H — \$1170	Division A — \$125
	Division F — \$125

► CLUB GROWTH

Spring Cleaning to Achieve Goals

by Paula Summa, DTM, D84 Club Growth Director



Paula Summa

The term "Spring Cleaning" is used metaphorically for any kind of heavy-duty cleaning. It is a time to finish projects we started earlier in the year and to re-charge for the next season. It can give us a feeling of accomplishment and creates new energy to do the chores that lie ahead of us.

When it comes to Toastmasters, I think of "spring cleaning" as an opportunity to complete the tasks we started and to accomplish the goals we set for ourselves at the beginning of this Toastmaster year. By working on those goals, we continue to grow, not only ourselves, but our Clubs and our District. By reaching those goals, we are building more strength, achieving more success, and making new friends within our Toastmaster family.

Here are a few ways we can focus together to complete our "spring cleaning" and before the summer is here and a new Toastmaster season begins:

A Membership Goals: Does your Club need new members to bring the membership to 20 or achieve a net gain of 5? This is the time to have your Open Houses, invite guests, bring in guest speakers and to advertise your Club outside of Toastmasters. If you have less than 8 members, it is especially important to bring that number to 8 to maintain your Club's good standing.

B New Club Goals: We have proven that chartering a new Club is a lot easier than it seems. Toastmasters International has extended the incentive of no charter fee (\$125) for the Club and no charter fee for the member (\$20) if the new club charters by June 30th, 2021. Payment must be made for the current renewals period, plus the next renewals period. We can now open a fully online Club in our District, with members from all over the world. Don't wait! Now is the time to charter new Clubs! We have an awesome team who can assist you so you do not have to do it alone!

C Club, Area and Division Goals: Are you working towards becoming Distinguished (or better)? Check the Dashboard to see what your Club, Area or Division needs to reach that goal? How many more DCP points does the Club need? What will it take to achieve this? Encourage your members to give more speeches, work on getting those new members, and most importantly, make sure that your club VPE or other officer submits the education awards in both Base Camp and Club Central on Toastmasters International website! If the awards are not submitted in both places, credit will not be received.

D Individual Goals: Have you reached your own personal/individual goals for the Toastmasters year? If not, what do you have left to do to accomplish them? There is still time to become a sponsor of a new Club (we have several in the works) if that is all you have left in the Legacy Program. Reach out to [me](#) or to [Judy Hayes](#) to get your name on the list! We do not know what you need unless you tell us! Do you need to complete an HPL project to get your DTM? Let us know, and we can offer you some ideas. How many speeches do you have left to complete a level or a path? Contact other Clubs and ask if you can be a guest speaker or presenter.

Let's push to become a Distinguished Club, Area, and Division, working together to get our "Spring Cleaning" done, Toastmaster style.

We Got This! ■

"Spring cleaning isn't just about sorting through things and getting rid of clutter. It's about taking stock of who you are, and how others see you. It's a chance to redefine yourself, to change expectations, and to remember that it's never too late to recapture who you were, or to aim for who you want to be."

Anonymous

CLUB CHECKLIST (April – June 2021)

- ❑ Submit proof of completion for The Golden Gavel Incentive (last day is April 20)
- ❑ Add 5 or more members to earn Beat the Clock Membership Award (May 1 to June 30)
- ❑ Complete 2nd Moments of Truth Club Evaluation
- ❑ Hold Club Executive Committee Meeting
- ❑ Host an Open House
- ❑ Report Two Educational Goals
- ❑ Complete Club Officer Elections in May

► CLUB CORNER

Tips to Cure Toastmasters Spring Fever

by Vickie Goodman, DTM, District 84 Pathways Chair



Vickie Goodman

Spring fever is popping up in Clubs all over our District! Anticipation and excitement await us at every turn as we shake out the dust, finish and put away the old, and prepare for the new! Is your club ready?

Take stock of your club: Clubs should be completing their 2nd Moments of Truth (MOT) Club Evaluation. Have you made the improvements identified in your initial MOT from last summer or fall? What areas are still lingering? What processes need shoring up? The MOT helps Clubs plan a course of action to improve the club experience for their members and guests.

If you don't know where you want to go and how you want to improve, how will you know when you get there? Use the MOT to decide how you want your Club to finish this year and then work that plan until those things are accomplished.

Energize for action! Do you want to attract new members and keep current members motivated? Move out of the doldrums of winter and the pandemic by adding interest to your meetings and becoming a presence in your community – both virtual and in-person. Spice up your meetings by changing up your agenda, adding a featured speaker, sponsoring a community Speechcraft Program, or offering a Youth Leadership opportunity for graduating seniors (who can be persuaded to join when they turn 18). Add new non-traditional meeting roles like a Quiz Master, Mystery Greeter, Listen Master, Funny Finder and have fun! Start exploring in-person social events to reconnect with members past and present as well as hybrid meeting options (<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/running-a-successful-hybrid-club-meeting>).

Begin Club officer nominations: Elections should be held at the first meeting in May for officers to serve beginning July 1st. Offer leadership education to let members know about the opportunities that await in each Club officer role. The Immediate Past President is typically the head of the Nominating Committee and it is time for that committee to get active! Remember, new officer lists are due to TI in June.

Finish those projects! Evaluate your Club's DCP progress to determine what educational awards are needed to make your Club Distinguished, Select Distinguished or President's Distinguished. Remind those members working on projects to schedule their speeches so levels will be completed and submitted in Club Central and Base Camp before June 30th.

Participate in the D84 Annual Business Meeting and District Officer Elections: This will be a hybrid meeting to be held at the annual conference on May 15th. It is important that every voting member, which includes the Club President and VP Education, plan to attend in person or virtually to ensure your club vote is included in electing our District 84 leaders, from Division Directors to the District Trio, and for other business items like District alignment (which clubs will belong to which Areas and Divisions). Club leaders should expect email instructions on how to attend this important meeting. ■

Happy April Charter Anniversary

Anniversary	Club	City	Charter Date	Division Area	DCP History	Club Info
68	Orlando Conquerors	Orlando	4/1/1953	C 33	DCP-History	Clubinfo
58	Harbor City	Melbourne	4/1/1963	B 23	DCP-History	Clubinfo
57	Seminole	Tallahassee	4/1/1964	H 82	DCP-History	Clubinfo
46	Apopka Foliage, Club 840	Apopka	4/1/1975	C 30	DCP-History	Clubinfo
45	Osceola	Kissimmee	4/1/1976	E 52	DCP-History	Clubinfo
37	Southwood	Tallahassee	4/1/1984	H 84	DCP-History	Clubinfo
35	Articulators	Altamonte Springs	4/1/1986	D 40	DCP-History	Clubinfo
19	Orators of Altamonte	Altamonte Springs	4/16/2002	D 40	DCP-History	Clubinfo
16	Castle.com	Jacksonville	4/27/2005	A 11	DCP-History	Clubinfo
15	North Jax	Jacksonville	4/3/2006	A 10	DCP-History	Clubinfo
15	Coastmasters of Palm Coast	Bunnell	4/3/2006	F 65	DCP-History	Clubinfo
15	Deerwood	Jacksonville	4/21/2006	A 13	DCP-History	Clubinfo
14	EA Tiburon	Orlando	4/2/2007	C 31	DCP-History	Clubinfo
12	Sensational Saturday Speakers	Lakeland	4/1/2009	E 53	DCP-History	Clubinfo
10	Safe Words	Orlando	4/1/2011	D 44	DCP-History	Clubinfo
7	Weekend	Winter Springs	4/8/2014	D 41	DCP-History	Clubinfo
7	Bristol West	Lake Mary	4/15/2014	I 93	DCP-History	Clubinfo
3	C2M	Orlando	4/30/2018	C 32	DCP-History	Clubinfo
1	Wharton-Smith	Sanford	4/10/2020	I 92	DCP-History	Clubinfo
1	Stellar Advanced	Lakeland	4/24/2020	E 53	DCP-History	Clubinfo
1	FAIRWINDS Speaks	Orlando	4/27/2020	C 33	DCP-History	Clubinfo

Top 10 clubs with highest education awards per July 1 base membership

Club	Educ. awards	July 1 base	Ratio
Let's Talk Toastmasters Club	22	14	1.57
Marion United Toastmasters	16	11	1.45
We Can Speak-Podemos Hablar Toastmasters Club	20	14	1.43
West Volusia Toastmasters	13	10	1.30
Florida International Talkers	14	11	1.27
Apopka Foliage, Club 840	12	11	1.09
Toastmasters of St Augustine	13	12	1.08
World Toasters	15	14	1.07
Melbourne FL Toastmasters Club	8	8	1.00
Four Corners Toastmasters	15	15	1.00

Current as of April 12, 2021

► FROM THE PRM DESK

Change: Embrace, Encourage and Enjoy

by Fred Bergeron, DTM, District 84
Public Relations Manager



Fred Bergeron

If April showers bring May flowers in the spring, what do you bring to Toastmasters all year round? Although renewals just ended,

ask yourself, "What can I do to contribute to my Club and the District to help achieve our mission to build new clubs and support all Clubs in achieving excellence?" What can I do to help us achieve excellence? What can I do to help those struggling with Pathways? What can I do to help those who dislike virtual meetings embrace the necessary changes required to help us overcome adversity?

These are questions only you, as a contributing member, can answer effectively. Socrates states, "The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

Remember the three E's when it comes to change:

1. Embrace the new
2. Encourage others to do the same
3. Enjoy life to its fullest ■

► PATHWAYS FAQ

HELP! How Do I Upload My Evaluations in Pathways?

by Vickie Goodman, DTM, District 84 Pathways Chair

Question: Where do I submit my speech evaluation forms? Nobody seems to ask me for them.

Answer: Written Speech Evaluation forms should always be returned to the member who gave the speech. Of course, there is usually an oral evaluation given at the Club meeting, but the written form can offer a lot more detail and will provide a reference document for the member to review when making other speeches. This feedback is how we modify and improve our presentation skills. There is no requirement that a member submit a copy of a speech evaluation as proof of completion, but there is a way that a member can upload the evaluation form (as well as other documents) into their permanent record file in Base Camp. This is a great way to keep track of all of your speeches and evaluations and the process is very simple:

- 1) Save your written evaluation on your personal computer by scanning it, taking a photo or simply saving an electronic version emailed to you from your evaluator.
- 2) Log on to [Toastmasters International](https://www.toastmastersinternational.org) and go to Base Camp.
- 3) From your Base Camp Home Page, select the MY DOCUMENTS tab on the right
- 4) MY DOCUMENTS is located on your E-Portfolio tab, and allows you to upload documents into folders much as you would save them in a file cabinet. This is your own, private file and is not accessible by Toastmasters International or Base Camp Managers. Files stored in these folders will remain until you change them.
- 5) Decide in which folder you wish to save the evaluation form. If it is a Level 1 Speech, select the Level 1 folder. This will open the contents of the folder (if any) and allow you to add documents.
- 6) Select the blue ADD FILE tab at the top right. This will open an ADD FILE box.
- 7) Click on the blue SELECT A FILE button and this will take you to your personal computer files
- 8) Locate the saved evaluation form and double click on the file so it appears on the Add file box
- 9) Select the ADD button.

Congratulations! The evaluation form should now appear as a document in the Level 1 file. Of course, you may save documents to any of the file folders. I even save copies of my speeches in these locations. You may also upload other documents into the MY DOCUMENTS folder, which may include special awards or recognitions, project ideas or whatever interests you.

The great thing about uploading documents to these files is that they will always be there as a permanent record of your accomplishments. Even if you leave Toastmasters for a period of time, when you renew your membership at some point in the future, your documents, paths and records will be waiting for you right where you left off. ■

► MENTORSHIP

Blossoming with a Distant Mentor

by W.C. Blackmon, DTM, Division H Director



W.C. Blackmon

Have you ever tried being mentored from a distance? How about being mentored by someone whom you have never personally met?

As humans, we have the natural propensity to learn, develop, grow, and renew, often through classes and personal interaction with those who are practicing experts in a given field. But what can we do when the circumstances of our lives

prevent our opportunities for face-to-face access and self-development education from those experts?

I have never met world-renowned, motivational speakers Zig Ziglar or Les Brown, nor have I had a conversation with world-class author Walter Mosley. Yet, these individuals have been mentors of mine for years. Through his storied jokes, anecdotes, personal stories, and sagaciously transparent metaphors, Mr. Ziglar continually provides me with a clearly marked road map to achieving personal success. His teachings reinforce essential requirements for success, like constantly pushing my limitations and giving my all.

"Go as far as you can see, and when you get there, you will always be able to see farther." These words from Zig Ziglar have helped me to set my personal boundaries far beyond my personal sight, and remain unafraid at the prospect.

Through his articulate and passion-filled speeches, Les Brown continually grooms me to be a champion orator. The greatest lesson I have learned from Mr. Brown is the absolute requirement for me to be myself when connecting and speaking with others. This key to success promotes a genuine connection and undeniable believability in my words, in my actions, and in *me*! It is, after all, a sad life that lives in another's clothes.

Similarly, Walter Mosley has etched into my brain some keys to writing riveting stories. In reading his books and paying close attention to his plots and character development, I am continually reminded to inculcate my own writing with those vivid, I'm-right-there-with-you scenes, and riveting characters that appear bigger than life and just as real as the book or reading device in your hand.

In late 2016 and 2017, I augmented my Toastmasters training with lessons from distant mentors such as Zig Ziglar, Les Brown, TD Jakes, and Anthony Robins. There is no doubt in my mind that these added lessons from my mentors greatly contributed to my being recognized in 2017 by Toastmasters International as one of the top 30 speakers in the world. I also know that the many books I have read helped me author two inspirational books, as well as a children's book.

The most wonderful aspect to all of this is that there is no need for you to wait to begin learning from those whose work you admire. Whether we personally know them or not, we can receive valuable lessons from practicing experts. Select any mentor you desire and connect by whatever mechanism you personally choose: smart phone, computer, television, or radio. Thanks to technology, the keys to unlock access, through those once nearly impenetrable doors, are literally at your fingertips.

As part of your spring renewal, I encourage you to seize the opportunity to advance your personal development via one or more distant mentors. As you put into practice those lessons learned from your distant mentors, your growth will be visible. Who knows? You may one day discover that your spring renewal efforts have made you the inspiration for some sagacious distant protégé. ■



Division Speech Contest Schedule

Division	Date	Contest Time	Zoom Link	Additional Info	Contact Info
Division E	Saturday, April 17 th , 2021	1:30 pm	Division E Zoom Link		etiencken@gmail.com
Division H	Sat, April 17 th	4:00 pm	Division H Zoom Link	Meeting ID: 890 2341 4771 Passcode: 287975	wblackmon7@gmail.com
Division I	Saturday, April 24 th , 2021	1:30 pm	Division I Zoom Link	Meeting ID: 822 0269 7332	ghsmith911@gmail.com

District 84 Speech Contest Schedule

Contest	Date	Contest Time	Zoom Link	Additional Info	Contact Info
Evaluation Speech Contest	Saturday, May 1 st , 2021	2:00 pm	District 84 Evaluation Contest Zoom Link	Meeting ID: 976 4124 8044 Passcode: cPKuot Phone Passcode: 770952	Nancy Wilkins nancywilkins@me.com
Humorous Speech Contest	Saturday, May 1 st , 2021	6:00 pm	District 84 Humorous Speech Contest Zoom Link	Meeting ID: 976 4124 8044 Passcode: cPKuot Phone Passcode: 770952	nancywilkins@me.com
International Speech Contest	Saturday, May 8 th , 2021	5:00 pm	District 84 International Speech Contest		nancywilkins@me.com

Resilience in Times of Uncertainty:

A Conversation with Toastmasters and the American Psychological Association

Toastmasters International and the American Psychological Association (APA) recently conducted a webinar on how to build resilience in times of uncertainty. Watch the expert panel of psychologists and global Toastmasters leaders as they discussed how to build resilience in times of uncertainty and recommend ways to address what so many are experiencing—burnout, loneliness, and stress. The panelists shared tips on how to navigate those feelings with evidence-based strategies and tips for finding work/life balance, maintaining mechanisms for camaraderie and community, and how best to practice self-care and gratitude.

Watch the webinar at: [Resilience in Times of Uncertainty](#)

Go beyond the webinar with these recent *Toastmaster* articles, "[Staying Connected While Apart](#)," "[How Volunteering Improves Your Health](#)," and recent APA articles, "[Building Your Resilience](#)," "[COVID-19 Stress Management Tools](#)."

Other webinars can be viewed at: <https://www.toastmasters.org/events/webinars>



FINDING NEW MEMBERS FOR YOUR CLUB

The POWER of meetup

Presented by **Becky McGilton, DTM, PDD**
District 84 Meetup Coordinator

April 17, 2021
4 PM

Hosted by
Peace Talkers
Toastmasters Club

ZOOM ID:
273 257 970
Passcode:
599862



District 84

Pathways Program Support

Online Drop-in Help Sessions

- **What:** Ask questions, get general help or specific navigation instructions.
- **When:** 1st and 15th of every month
- **Time:** 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- **ZOOM Link:** [PathwaysOpenMicSessions](#)
Meeting ID: 860 6865 050
Passcode: 265141

YouTube Video Tutorials

- Brief tutorial sessions designed to meet member needs from beginners to advanced Base Camp Managers
- Access whenever you need them (about 20 mins each). Look for YouTube link as well as other Pathways resource links at <https://www.toastmastersd84.org/clubassist#Pathways>

Get the help you need NOW!

Contact Pathways Committee Chair:

Vickie Goodman, DTM
vgoodmanDTM@gmail.com



Toastmasters Coffee and T

John Morrow, DTM,
hosts a monthly Zoom-based
session to train, mentor, and coach new
Toastmasters. Topics may include membership,
pathways, meeting roles, mentoring, new member
questions, FreeToastHost, and/or the
Toastmaster's International website.

Second Monday Each Month
May 10 | June 14 | July 12
starting at 6:00 pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 821
012 4147

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8210124147>

The gathering is open to
all Toastmasters.

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

So You've Joined Toastmasters.
Now What?

New Member Orientation with
the Trio and Pathways Chair

1st Sunday of Each Month
7:00pm ET on Zoom
Meeting ID: 962 7944 2148
Password: NewMembers



► LEADERSHIP

My Year as a Division Director

by Sunil Kumar Ancha, DTM, Division A Director



Sunil Ancha

On July 1, 2020, I started my leadership journey as the Division A Director in the middle of a catastrophic pandemic! Like so many others, COVID-19 created extraordinary challenges, but it also offered special opportunities. With the Toastmasters year rapidly drawing to a close, I'd like to share some insight and reflections in the hope that I can smooth the road for incoming leaders at the Club, Area,

and Division levels.

First and foremost, we are a communications organization so:

- Be clear, honest, and transparent in both your verbal and written communications. Set aside time in your day to respond promptly to your email.
- Define your vision and purpose statements in a clear and concise manner, then visit them regularly, especially while making key decisions to ensure you stay on track.

As Toastmasters, we know the great bonus we get with membership: world-class leadership training! Here are some thoughts on leadership for your consideration.

- **Lead by example!** Your actions or inactions can make or break the team's morale.
- **Make decisions in the best interest of your team.** You will succeed if your team succeeds. In other words, your success at the expense of your team's success is futile. Your team will be quick to sense your motivating factors.
- **Be always ready to help** when someone approaches, however, do not offer unsolicited negative feedback. If you would like to offer constructive feedback, seek the other person's approval first.
- **Recognize your team promptly** for their achievements!
- **Identify and document** your team's goals, priorities, expectations, ownership, and timelines.

- **Treat everyone equally**, irrespective of their job title or leadership position within Toastmasters, the community, work, or business.
- **Be open to differing perspectives** and respectful of other opinions. As much as you feel you are correct in your opinion, others may not feel the same. Differing opinions on the team can often be resolved by looking at the bigger picture.

My final thoughts are around my personal Toastmasters journey. I believe strongly in the servant-leader model that Toastmasters International teaches. It's a good fit for me and I'd like to offer these suggestions:

- Help is available all along the journey; don't be afraid to ask, just try not to wait until the last minute.
- Be willing to learn from everyone in Toastmasters – members, leaders, and yes, even guests.
- Respect your mentor's advice, time, feedback, and relationship. Do not take it for granted. You are blessed to have a mentor.
- Take steps to make progress in your leadership journey. Do not let the fear of negative comments or making mistakes keep you from your goals. Learn from your mistakes.
- Take time to celebrate your own success with your family, friends, and team.
- Commit to the tasks that you can fulfill to the best of your ability and on time.

Remember, the more you participate in Toastmasters at every level, the more you will get out of it. Trust your instincts, put one foot in front of the other on your journey, and have fun doing it! ■

► DISTINGUISHED TOASTMASTERS



Bethany Boring, DTM
Past Area Director
Harbor City
Toastmasters Club



Eveline Kraljic, DTM
Past Area Director
Toastmasters at Twelve



Janelle Thomas, DTM
Past Area Governor
Lillian R. Bradley
Toastmasters Club



Michael Carroll, DTM
Past Division Director
Orange Park
Toastmasters Club



Ronald Parpart, DTM
Past District 84 Governor
Collins Club



Theodore Allman, DTM
Past Division Director
You Talkin' to Me?
Toastmasters



Francisco Campos, DTM
Past Area Director
Let's Talk Toastmasters
Club



Walter Blackmon, DTM
Division H Director
We Can Speak-Podemos Hablar



Courtney Moore, DTM
Past Area Director
Weekend Toastmasters

Congratulations to all District 84 Toastmasters who achieved their Distinguished Toastmaster Award (DTM) from July 2020 to April 12, 2021. Not pictured: Mona Cherkaoui, Natalia Cox, Joseph Dertien, Mary Halter, Randal Joseph Halter, Valentin Iamandi, Ruby Scotland, and members 1469536 and 3466072.

► DEFYING ODDS

Driven by Destiny: A Story of Resilience, Persistence and Triumphs!

by Patty Goodwin, EC2, Driven by Destiny Club Liaison



Patty Goodwin

Despite significant pandemic safety constraints imposed at Gadsden Correctional Facility this past year, the women of Driven by Destiny Toastmasters were determined to pursue their Toastmasters' goals. After all, the Club had been a vibrant, increasingly successful Club since its inception in 2013 and the members weren't about to let that fade! The last full club meeting was in March of

2020 after which activities and visitation were shut down. From late March through the end of June, members focused individually on completing as many awards in the legacy program as possible prior to the anticipated Pathways transition. With support from the Gadsden staff, these determined women put together smaller-sized, mini-Toastmasters meetings, held in various locations at various times. In addition, a successful election of new officers was held prior to the deadline. This flurry of activity and collaboration succeeded and the Club ended the 2019-2020 year as a President's Distinguished Club with a total of 32 awards under the Legacy Program!

After a brief breather, collaboration continued to manage dues renewals, officer training and ordering Pathways printed materials for every member. Regular mini-meetings then restarted under Covid-19 safety protocols. Board members and experienced Toastmasters took the lead in the Pathways transition, managed agendas and minutes, and mentored new members eager to join without delay! Pathways Level 1 accomplishments are building, and some are on the cusp of Level 2. With a great sense of relief and celebration, the club resumed regular meetings as of April 1st (still with attention to safety protocols), and the impact of this renewed opportunity is apparent in these member comments:

"The past year has been filled with uncertainty and insanity, but I was happy that Toastmasters remained. We adjusted to the new norm while remaining on task with our new Pathways programs. How great to be back together again!"

— Cynthia Schwartz

"It amazed me to witness the flames of passion still burning within Driven by Destiny during the pandemic. It was a

struggle at first, but we gained a greater appreciation for Toastmasters as a result. I personally plan to access every opportunity to advance and learn, and now to finally meet all together means so much more!" — Rose Pierre, VPPR

"It was definitely hard not having a Toastmasters meeting with my entire group once a week. But now we are back in full swing! I'm excited and hungry for our new journey in Pathways." — Tamara Lockley, VPM

In addition to regular mini-meetings the club conducted "mock" speech contests and held a dynamic Moments of Truth session where members offered feedback on parts of their Toastmasters culture that they missed and were eager to re-incorporate, and now that will happen! A need for education and practice with evaluations led to an Evaluation Nation intensive, focused on enhancing those skills and increasing confidence. Also, several newsletters were put together over the course of the year and distributed internally, keeping the members connected with inspirational stories, quotes, reflections, and even original artwork! Creativity flourishes in these talented women.

But wait, we're not done yet! Driven by Destiny's success has resulted in a growing membership waiting list, so a new Gavel Club is expected to open at Gadsden Correctional Facility in the next two months. Is it a first to have a Toastmasters Club and a Gavel Club within the same correctional facility? We don't know---but collectively we are eager to explore the possibilities this will create.

I am confident that this remarkable club and its sister Gavel Club will continue to achieve new heights of success in unexpected ways, raising the bar for themselves and others! ■



Driven by Destiny Toastmasters Club meets at Gadsden Correctional Facility.

► SPRING FEVER

Doctor, Doctor, Give Me the Cure!

by Gail Hill Smith, DTM, Division I Director. Assisted by Denise Badolato, DTM, and Kennedy Ong



Gail Hill Smith

I recently caught up with Dr. T. Masters, PhD, specializing in Toastacology, the study of Toastmasters. I was introduced to 'Dr. T' (as she likes to be called) shortly after I joined Toastmasters. I was suffering, at the time, from emotions and feelings that Dr. T diagnosed as "spring fever". It is dizzying to remember the 100's of symptoms I

exhibited, but thanks to the Toastmaster cures prescribed by Dr. T, I have maintained my membership for over 25 years!

Dr. T has prescribed the Toastmasters cure to treat the ailments and concerns of Toastmasters around our District. She shared the following pleas for help in hopes that those experiencing similar symptoms will benefit from the prescribed cure:

Fight or Flight

Dear Dr. T,

I am paralyzed by my fight and flight response antics when making a presentation. I have prepared slides but the audience starts asking questions. I only know the basics on the slides and can't answer them. I can feel my heart thump as I squint in the dim light, and I can see the sabre tooth tigers stalking nearer. I feel my fight response, but I cannot fight the tigers. My flight response kicks in and I bolt out of the room. What can I do?

Toastmaster Ong: I prescribe Toastmasters as a way to confront your tigers. Repeated exposure to a friendly Toastmasters audience helps desensitize the fight or flight response. Your nerves will calm enough to answer those unexpected questions. You will look those tigers in the eye, thump your chest, and say, "Yes, I can do this!"

My Speaking Fever Spiked

Dr. T.,

I need a cure! I have Speaker's Spring Fever galore! My voice cracks; the ah's and um's spew; my armpits sweat, and so much more! What's a girl to do?

Toastmaster Badolato: I prescribe continuing doses of Toastmasters membership. This will alleviate "speaking fever" just like aspirin reduces a fever. Continued Toastmaster membership supplies you with a venue, a program, and a place for you to exercise that strong, resilient voice. Take this "cure" every 6 months with membership renewal. Your topic exploration will expand, your voice will strengthen, and you will be speaking and singing like a lark. As for those sweaty armpits, wear a dark jacket and invest in a new anti-perspirant.

New Member "F.E.A.R. Confusion

Dear Dr. T. Masters:

I recently joined Toastmasters, kicking and screaming, with encouragement from my spouse, also a Toastmaster. I suffer from "F.E.A.R.: Forgetting Everything is All Right". I have enrolled in Pathways but I keep forgetting to start it. Can you help cure my "F.E.A.R."?

Toastmaster Moore: My Toastacology studies delved into "F.E.A.R." In fact, my thesis focused on "F.E.A.R: Future Event Appearing Real". Pathways will open that door to a new reality. No anxiety medication needed if you exercise these options: a) ask an experienced member to mentor you in Pathways; 2) attend the bi-monthly Pathways Support workshops held online which will address any, and all, questions; 3) DIY- The TI website has training and instructional videos and flyers that will guide you through Pathways and eliminate the kicking and screaming. I guarantee you will succeed with "F.E.A.R. - Future Event Appearing Real. Many Toastacology studies show you will become "fear-less" and clear headed... unless, of course, you toast to your success with a fine glass of Merlot!

If anyone has a "spring fever" symptom contact Dr. "T" at DrTMastersD84@gmail.com for suggestions and cures! ■

► CLUB PROFILE

Dedication and Fellowship Key to Lake Mary Toastmasters Club's Success

by Sowjanya Athmakuri, LD3, Club President, Lake Mary Toastmasters



Sowjanya Athmakuri

Lake Mary Toastmasters Club #6440 (LMTM), with great aplomb, has secured the bragging rights to show off their thirteen consecutive years as a President's Distinguished Club.

How did we do that?

Simply put, the core value of the club has been "Dedication to continuity." Like a good marriage, we stick with each

other through thick and thin. Over many years, a core group of members continues to serve the Club and mentor new, incoming leaders as Club officers. This dedication and fellowship are at the heart of LMTM earning its President's Distinguished award year after year.

Established in 2004, the LMTM club met at different venues, including cafés, community centers, university conference rooms, and then went online during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Club is now a hybrid where it enjoys both "Zoomies" and "Roomies."

Meetings are executed in an informal, yet structured, setting. They empower speakers to explore their strengths and build upon their shortcomings in a judgment-free zone. For every speaker, constructive criticism is laid out in a sandwich method, layering "areas excelled" and "areas for improvement," a successful strategy that keeps the members motivated.

Finally, although we are tempted to hit that snooze button to sleep in, we firmly believe the early bird gets the worm, and we join the meetings bright and early at 7:30 am every Tuesday. With the enthusiasm and energy acquired from the early morning meetings, LMTM members cruise through the day and throughout the week, craving more for next week at the same time.

See **Page 16** for testimonials from Lake Mary Toastmasters. ■



▶ LAKE MARY TOASTMASTERS' TESTIMONIALS



"Toastmasters for me is a catalyst that rapidly builds communication skills as well as my public speaking efforts, all while accentuating my leadership skills during my tenure as Vice President of Education and the President of the esteemed LMTM Club. The people here are the kindest you can find!"

— Sowjanya Athmakuri



"I joined Lake Mary Toastmasters in 2007 for two primary reasons: Firstly, I was a fairly new Realtor, who needed to learn how to handle criticism and rejection. Secondly, barely knowing anyone here, I needed to expand my world. This fine organization has given me loads of 'Toastmaster Family' and endless opportunities for professional and personal development. Three DTM's later, I'm still on board!"

— Stephany Bonnie Byrne, DTM



"Toastmaster gave me a breakthrough in my communication skills, how I connect with people and lead in every aspect of my life. The best part? it's fun and you learn new things in every meeting!"

— Claudia Cermeli



"Toastmasters helped me overcome a great fear of public speaking, improved my confidence, and honed my skills as a Systems Engineer. I won many speech contests: Club, Area, Division; held multiple leadership positions at the Club and Area levels (Area 21 Governor, 1981). I am now happily retired and enjoying Toastmasters."

— James Harris



"I joined Toastmasters 16 years ago to overcome my fear of presenting in large groups and I credit Toastmasters for a work promotion. What I really enjoy most about Toastmasters are the people in my club, hearing their stories and knowledge shared. At the end of every meeting, I feel connected and energized. What a great way to start your day!"

— Julia Kauffman, DTM



"A change was inevitable when Toastmasters helped me reflect and rise like a phoenix to break shackles created by self and society for over a decade. I'm forever grateful for the opportunity to help me come out of my cocoon."

— Patty Reddy



"I originally joined Toastmasters in 1982 in Forth Worth, TX, and had to leave Toastmasters after one year as I was transferred, but I rejoined in 2013. Toastmasters has provided me with the opportunity to grow personally in many ways and keep my mind continuously challenged, engaged and ready to learn".

— Ernst Urbainczyk

Lake Mary
Toastmasters
Empowers
Members to
Achieve Their
Full Potential

"Ours is the only organization I know dedicated to the individual, we work together to bring out the best in each of us and then we apply these skills to help others."

— Ralph Smedley

► LEADERSHIP

Division E Started Strong to Finish Strong

by Edith Tiencken, SR5, Division E Director



We wasted no time! It was June 30th, 2020, at 6:30 pm, and the newly appointed team to run Division E was already meeting to get to know each other and set plans for the new Toastmasters' year! We put our hearts on the table—what do we bring to the team? What do we need from the team? What, when, and how to communicate? What do we expect from ourselves and each other?

I quickly learned that every member of the Team: Annie, Arcenet, Cathy, Donald, Hector, and Terry, had dreams and goals for success, but to achieve them, we needed each other.

The beauty of it was that we all have gifts to share and meet the other's needs.

"E" stands for Excellence," said Donald, and that gave life to a wonderful journey together as Team E! Commitment, diligence, collaboration, and success provided our agreed-upon foundation which our team kept alive with above-and-beyond performance throughout these past months.

In my experience as Division Director, there is no greater gratification than working with a team that displays its Toastmasters values and demonstrates leadership in the actions of every team member.

I was supported by the District leadership and committee chairs with clear directions, sound plans, and excellent tools to share with Team E. Indeed, this has been a continuous learning experience for me as Division Director, as well as our Area Directors and Assistant Area Directors.

This learning has come in many ways. Every District Executive Council Meeting (DEC) meeting is an opportunity to learn, share, and challenge ourselves with the next goals. How should we achieve the goals and tackle the new challenges? One way was to maintain our agreed-upon foundational behaviors; another way was to monitor progress in our reports and task list. Sounds boring? Not really! We learned rather quickly that it takes establishing procedures, follow through, and leadership initiative to be successful!

Like many other divisions, we were challenged by our inability to help clubs that couldn't meet due to corporate restrictions. We also experienced the magic of Clubs like Plant City, which enjoys over 30 members because of its continual recruitment efforts resulting in 16 new members so far this Toastmasters year. It was also magical to see Bartow and Mid Lakeland Clubs work together to support each other's meetings, provide a great guest experience, and try to grow by joining forces. George Hazzard, our Hunters Creek champion, demonstrated innovation and creativity by reaching beyond Division E's boundaries to create the concept of sister Clubs to maximize each Club's efforts. George promoted these sister Clubs: World Toasters, Celebration Speak Easy, Hunters Creek, Toast of Celebration, and Hear Me Roar Toastmasters (Division N, District 26), together in social media outlets. These are just simple examples of what I experienced, observed, enjoyed, and helped me improve as a leader.

It is my mantra to believe in the greatness of others, but experiencing this greatness, watching everyone do their best regardless of the circumstances, is extraordinary! Learning the gift of servant leadership is the joy that Toastmasters has given me as Division Director; the magical experience of both giving and receiving leadership at many levels and from different perspectives to help others succeed.

Innovate, collaborate, help people put their talents to work, and to see their needs as opportunities to synergize so we may enjoy watching their successes — this has been my very rewarding experience as a Division Director. I have been blessed, and you can be, too. Accept the challenge to serve when the opportunity comes your way! ■

District 84 Club Ambassador Program

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March 2021 Report

46

Reports received

42

Clubs visited

6

Ambassador
Awards

Club Ambassadors

Eric Boehm
Sylvia Faure
Rebecca McGilton
Cindy Paulsen
Ramdeo Seepaul
Adrian Smude

Most Visited Clubs

- 2 South Beach
- 2 Peace Talkers
- 2 Orange County

Most Club Visits (Cumulative Points)

- 11 Denise Badolato (80)
- 8 William Lambert (47)

Best Practices

- Club had two words of the day
- Club business conducted prior to meeting
- Timer explained timing requirement before each event

Best Quotes

- "Toastmaster is transformative and life changing"
- "Never too late to get into the game"
- "Bloom where you are planted"

LOL Corner

by Dr. Ashok N. Shahane, DTM



Ashok Shahane

Early Shopper: It was Christmas and the judge was in a merry mood as he asked the prisoner, "What are you charged with?" "Doing my Christmas shopping early," replied the defendant. "That is no offense," said the judge. "How early were you doing this shopping?" "Before the store opened," countered the prisoner.

Do Your Part: A religious man was praying to God every day that he would be a lottery winner. He prayed as much as four times a day. Nothing happened for days, weeks, months and years. Finally, God responded to his prayers and, with a crash of thunder, said, "Son, you have to do your part before I can answer your prayers. You have to buy a lottery ticket!"

The Selection Criterion: A job seeker 1 applied for an engineering position at Charles Refinery. A job seeker 2 applied for the same job and both applicants, having the same qualifications, were asked by the manager to take a test. Upon completion of the test, both applicants each missed only one of the questions. The manager went to job seeker 1 and said, "Thank you for your interest, but we have decided to give the job to the job seeker 2." The job seeker 1 asked, "Why are you giving the job seeker 2 the job? We both got nine questions correct. I should get the job because I am from this area.!" The manager said, "We made the decision based not on the correct answer, but rather on the one question that you both missed." Job seeker number 1 then asked "And just how would one incorrect answer be better than the other?" The manager replied, "Look, it's like this...on question #4, the Job seeker 2 answered 'I don't know' and your answer was 'Neither do I.'"

A Vacation: A Chicago salesperson called his manager from Miami: "I'm struck down here. We're in the middle of a hurricane. The planes have stopped flying. The buses and trains are not running and highways are flooded. What shall I do?" The manager replied, "Start your two week vacation as of this morning."

Source: Shahane A.N. Useful Stories for Daily Life, Father

► QUOTABLE QUOTES

Change Your Thoughts, Change Your Life!

"I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took any excuse."

— Florence Nightingale

"I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

— Michael Jordan

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity."

— Amelia Earhart

"Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it."

— Charles Swindoll

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."

— Chinese Proverb

"Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is."

— Vince Lombardi

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us."

— Helen Keller

"First, have a definite, clear practical ideal; a goal, an objective. Second, have the necessary means to achieve your ends; wisdom, money, materials, and methods. Third, adjust all your means to that end."

— Aristotle

"If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough."

— Oprah Winfrey



Conference Supplement

► WELCOME FROM THE VOICES AROUND THE WORLD CONFERENCE CHAIR



Sandy DePrimo, DTM
Conference Chair

“Voices Around the World” is quickly approaching and you do not want to miss this conference! You will have the opportunity to explore Toastmasters culture, immerse yourself in new ideas, and be

inspired by dynamic learning opportunities, Keynote Speakers, and inspirational presentations. The Agenda is jam-packed with interactive and engaging activities!

Representatives from around the world, dressed in traditional costume, will greet you upon arrival and guide you to the registration desk! If you are interested in becoming a member of this eclectic Greeting Committee, please email sandydeprimo@outlook.com

“Voices Around the World” celebrates the Toastmasters family that extends around the Globe. It celebrates our accomplishments and our ability to find a way to visit clubs locally and abroad. A pandemic could not stop Toastmasters from utilizing their time during an unfortunate event to learn about each other and the world we live in.

Sign up for the conference and experience cultural dance, music, and art. If you have an artistic passion you can display your work in the Art Gallery. The Art Gallery is not limited to painting and drawings but focuses on all kinds of arts and crafts. If you are interested in displaying any items, please see the flyer in this publication. Come check it out!

Learn different Latin dances, line dance, and maybe some Bollywood as well! Put on your dancing shoes and dance the night away in the Hospitality Suite! How much fun is that?

Become inspired to heighten your speeches by attending inspirational workshops. Listen to 2 dynamic Key Notes Speakers and 3 inspirational moments!

The gift baskets available as raffle prizes are beautiful! You'll enjoy the array of cultural gift baskets available and do not forget to buy your 50/50 Tickets as well! Will you win the cash prize?

Friday night is costume night! Wear a costume from your heritage or the region your Division is representing! Make sure you are part of the Costume Showcase! Saturday night is formal. You can either wear your own formal wear or formal wear from another culture. You must look your best to receive the many awards and recognitions that may be coming to you!!

“Voices Around the World” is a great opportunity to see your Toastmasters family in person, learn new things, grow as a speaker, and have a lot of fun doing it! We look forward to seeing you on May 14th and 15th of 2021 at the ***“Voices Around the World”*** Conference in Lake Buena Vista South at the Embassy Suites Orlando.

Sign up here:

www.toastmastersd84.org/conference

SAFETY IS A PRIORITY

The annual District 84 Toastmasters Conference will be held in Osceola County and those attending are subject to Osceola County rules and regulations regarding pandemic practices.

Osceola County has enacted an emergency ordinance that requires all people working, living, visiting, or doing business in Osceola County to wear face coverings while in public places until further notice.

All businesses operating in Osceola are expected to comply with local emergency orders, including requiring both staff and patrons to follow the local face-covering order and abide by appropriate guidance from the Centers for Disease Control including social distancing and enhanced sanitation practices.

Due to the social distancing guidelines, the number of people attending the Conference will be limited to 204. Once we reach 204 people registered for the Conference, there will be no more Conference tickets sold.

Florida remains in “Phase 3” which allows all businesses across the state, including restaurants, to open at full capacity. However, people 65 and older and those with underlying health issues are still being urged to stay home.

Source <https://www.osceola.org/covid19/>

CONFERENCE FLASHBACK



Photo credit: William McCombie, DTM

► VOICES AROUND THE WORLD CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday's Schedule

11:00am-5:00pm — Registration Desk Open

12:00-5:00pm — World Art Gallery Open

12:00-5:00pm — Raffle Table Open

2:00pm See Workshop Schedule

5:30pm Banner Parade Line Up

6:00pm Banner Parade

6:15pm Color Guard

6:30pm Pledge & National Anthem

6:40pm District Director Remarks

7:00pm Inspirational Moment

7:05pm Recess for Dinner

8:15pm Keynote Speaker: Lea Tran

9:00pm Costume Showcase

9:30pm Present Awards
Club Ambassador Awards
Evaluation & Humorous
Contest
International Speech Contest
Hospitality Suite

Saturday's Schedule

8:00am-12:00pm — Registration Desk Open

8:00am-4:00pm — Raffle Table Open

8:00am-5:00pm — World Art Gallery Open

8:00am See Workshop Schedule

12:00pm Awards Luncheon

2:00pm Business Council Meeting

4:30pm See Education Schedule

4:30pm Gift Basket Drawing

5:30pm Happy Hour

6:30pm Doors Open for Dinner

7:00pm Dignitary Processional

7:20pm Inspirational Moment

7:25pm Recess for Dinner

8:15pm Conference 2022 Reveal

8:30pm Keynote Speaker: Roy Ganga

9:15pm DTM Walk

9:45pm Installation of Officers

10:00pm Present Awards, 50/50 Raffle

10:15pm District Director Farewell
Speech

10:30pm District Director Elect Speech
Hospitality Suite

► VOICES AROUND THE WORLD KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Lea Tran, DTM
Keynote Speaker
TEDx Speaker
Transformational
Coach
Author

What if I told you that you don't have to get stuck or feel trapped when a major disaster strikes? You have the power to rise above your trauma and thrive in unpredictable times if you know how to develop your tools. Public speaking is a critical tool to allow your voice to be heard.

My name is Lea Tran. I was once a penniless "boat people" refugee who could not speak English. My harrowing experiences pushed me to graduate from Villanova University, started a career as a medicinal chemist for 17 years, and went on to own a high-end drapery business for 10 years.

Toastmasters taught me how to find my voice. My mission now is to inspire as many people as I can to use their voices to make a difference for themselves and to change the world they live in.



Roy Ganga, DTM
International Director
2020-2022

Roy Ganga is a top-rated keynote speaker, delivering motivational and inspiring talks on Leadership, Change Management, Creativity, Innovation, Self Confidence, and Finding Your Purpose. He has over 30 years expert management experience, leading people through effective listening, giving and receiving feedback, conflict management, delegation, cultural diversity and ethical leadership.

Roy is a credible resource on social issues, including suicide awareness and prevention, bullying, family disintegration, domestic violence, sexual abuse. He is the President and Founder of Energize Your Voice. His passion for motivating and inspiring people drives him to connect with other individuals, to inspire them and motivate them to realize their full potential.

Roy is the recipient of multiple awards for his outstanding leadership, communication and community services globally. He is the recipient of Toastmasters International Presidential Citation Award and currently serves on board of directors for Toastmasters.



Photo credit: William McCombie, DTM

► EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS SCHEDULE

Session Date/Time	Explore	Immerse	Inspire
Friday May 14 2:00pm	First Timers Finding Your Voice <i>Presenter: John Lash</i>	Body Language & Gestures around the World <i>Presenter: Edith Tiencken</i>	Glue That Holds Us Together: A Modern Guide to Making Friends and Networking <i>Presenter: Landon Proctor</i>
Saturday May 15 8:00am	First Timers Finding Your Voice <i>Presenter: John Lasch</i>	Better Cellphone Photography <i>Presenter: Pamela Winter</i>	Conflict...It's a good thing <i>Presenter: Bob Fischer</i>
Saturday May 15 9:00am	Free Toast Host <i>Presenter: Rebecca McGilton</i>	Unconscious Bias: My Brain is Playing Tricks on Me <i>Presenter: Rachael Assignon</i>	Learn the Language of Communicating for Connection <i>Presenter: Tricia Martin</i>
Saturday May 15 10:00am	Pathways – Your Journey to Success <i>Presenter: Vickie Goodman</i>	Laugh and Live Well - Laughter Yoga <i>Presenter: Brenda Alloco</i>	Squashing the Fear of Failure <i>Presenter: Beth Ramsay</i>
Saturday May 15 11:00am	A World of UM's and AH's: A Cultural Learning Workshop <i>Presenters: Sandy DePrimo & Oscar Kaalstad</i>	Podcasting 101 <i>Presenter: Fred Bergeron</i>	Communicate to Heal <i>Presenter: Fazeel Gareeboo</i>
Saturday May 15 4:30pm	How to Pitch Your Proposals, Projects and Bids to Win <i>Presenter: Mark Gai</i>	Tapping into the Latin Dancer Inside You <i>Presenter: Nancy Wilkins</i>	On Mission: Intentional Procedures and Passionate Believers <i>Presenter: Debby Kerr-Henry</i>

► EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

Voices Around the World (VATW) is taking education to a new level of experience! We are excited to present three tracks: *Explore*, *Immerse* and *Inspire*. These are aligned with the vision for VATW conference. *Explore* is all about enhancing your experience and development as Toastmasters. In this track, you will benefit from topics such as how to maximize your conference if you are a first-timer, and how to present with power. The *Immerse* track is designed to expand your knowledge in the arts in a variety of forms and to further develop your cultural competence. This track is for you to learn while having a blast with fun activities. Lastly, as Toastmasters, we enjoy self-development, growing our leadership, and opening our minds with inspirational and motivational topics. The sessions were carefully selected to meet the standards set to provide a one-of-a-kind learning experience. The speakers are investing their heart and their knowledge!

Edith Tiencken

Free Toast Host | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 9:00am | Presenter: Rebecca McGilton

Free Toast Host, is a valuable tool that can help clubs be successful. Do you know how valuable it is? Do you know all that it offers? Do you use it? I probably don't know everything either, however, I've taken the time to learn and use much of what it does offer. The tool is helpful. In this session we will discover what you would like to know, what are some of the key benefits and just how helpful it can be, no matter what club officer role you are serving.



Pathways – Your Journey to Success | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 10:00am | Presenter: Vickie Goodman

Are you using Pathways to move closer to your personal goals? Or has your pathway to success been marred with some potholes along the way? Join our District Pathways Chair Vickie Goodman, for a power-packed session designed to assess and expand your entire Pathways experience. From navigational tools, tips and suggestions, to setting up your personal profile, completing your projects, tracking your progress, uploading evaluations and awarding badges – this session will include just what you need to discover the many opportunities awaiting in your Pathways journey to success.



A World of UM's and AH's: A Cultural Learning Workshop | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 11:00am | Presenters: Sandy DePrimo & Oscar Kaalstad

We come to Toastmasters to learn public speaking and leadership skills. Looking at the roles such as Grammarian, Ah Counter, and Evaluator, we are simultaneously learning to listen. There are techniques to: *Understand*, *Memorize*, and *Summarize* which will teach us to *Appreciate* one another, *Honor* our differences, and *Strengthen* our relationships. Join our interactive workshop and experience the difference it makes when people are truly heard and understood. We welcome UM's and AH's!



How to Pitch Your Proposals, Projects and Bids to Win | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 4:30pm | Presenter: Mark Gai

If everyone could present with power, confidence and charisma – then we all would be superstars in our respective industries. However, that is not the case for many people. In this session, you will learn how to implement an audience-tested practical pitch blueprint. A step-by-step guide on how to craft a powerful pitch. You will learn how to share your ideas with confidence and irresistible messaging for your target audience. Pitching with persuasion and power is an art. The good news is that you can learn it.



Body Language & Gestures around the World | Friday, May 14, 2021, 2:00pm | Presenter: Edith Tiencken

The gestures you make, your posture, how much eye contact you make—send strong messages. They can put people at ease, build trust, and draw others, or they can offend, confuse, and undermine your message. Even more interesting, there are substantial cultural differences in how people use body language to communicate. Sometimes it is obvious; other times, it is subtle. Indeed, understanding body language can be a challenge! Let's have some fun learning and practicing the not-so-obvious differences in body language across cultures!



Better Cellphone Photography | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 8:00am | Presenter: Pamela Winter

Cellphone cameras have become so advanced, many professional photographers have now added this to their regular gear. With almost everyone having a cellphone, there are more photographers than ever before. Pam will provide some basic techniques, advanced tips and tricks to show you how to get professional style images from your cellphone camera. This workshop will cover composition, lighting and photographic storytelling. Join Pam as she continues both her Toastmasters and photography journey today digitally and with a cellphone camera.



Unconscious Bias: My Brain is Playing Tricks on Me | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 9:00am | Presenter: Rachael Assignon

Unconscious bias has become a buzzword but has been around since the beginning of time. In this workshop we'll discuss types of unconscious bias, how bias happens, and how to rewire your brain to overcome certain biases. Apply cultural intelligence even if you never leave home. Even if you don't associate with other cultures, this workshop is for you.



Laugh and Live Well Laughter Yoga | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 10:00am | Presenter: Brenda Alloco

Laughter Yoga has the power to change your mood within minutes by releasing certain chemicals from your brain called endorphins. The class takes you through a series of intentional laughing exercises followed by breathing techniques that help get more oxygen into your body, ending with a deep breathing and calming exercise that will have you feeling great and relaxed.



Podcasting 101 | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 11:00am | Presenter: Fred Bergeron

With the virtual world we all got thrown into, podcasts are alternative sources of information. Fred will be presenting a session on what you need to start a podcast, plus some basic equipment to get you started, along with some best practices and different platforms.



Tapping into the Latin Dancer Inside You | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 4:30pm | Presenter: Nancy Wilkins

Have you ever been out for an evening and wanted to dance but did not know the moves? Today is your opportunity to learn. Nancy has been Ballroom dancing over the past 7 years and has learned many dances including Swing, Tango, Waltz and all of the Latin Dances too—Salsa, Bachata and Merengue. In this seminar session she will teach you the basics so you will have confidence to enter the dance floor and dance the night away in style. Join us for this fun and exhilarating learning session!



Glue That Holds Us Together: A Modern Guide to Making Friends and Networking | Friday, May 14, 2021, 2:00pm | Presenter: Landon Proctor

When we are children, making friends is seemingly the easiest task in existence. Nothing holds a child back from making a new friend. Sadly, as we get older, it becomes harder to make new, lasting friendships. Many factors have further complicated the simple and innocent act of making a new friend. In this interactive session we will dive into techniques for making friends with anyone and how to become better at networking with a purpose. Be prepared to practice and participate, this isn't a lecture on friendship, it's an exercise.



Conflict...It's a good thing | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 8:00am | Presenter: Bob Fischer

Not all conflict is a bad thing. Great things can come from it too. Attendees will learn the difference between the types of conflict and we will have fun role playing how to deal with the good, the bad and the ugly of it.

Learn the Language of Communicating for Connection | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 9:00am | Presenter: Tricia Martin

Learn the basic skills and concepts of non-violent communication and change the way you experience the world by emphasizing understanding, empathy, and needs. In this interactive session, you will learn concrete skills and steps for practicing compassion and leadership. Expect to explore: using the power of listening to build bridges across differences, staying open, even when people say things that bring up pain, speaking your truth in a way that is clear and more likely to lead to harmony, improve relationships and discover how to become a more powerful leader!



Squashing the Fear of Failure | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 10:00am | Presenter: Beth Ramsay

We have our plans, we have our goals, and we're ready to go. Then what happens? FEAR happens! How we can prevent fear from derailing us from actually executing our action plans, or as we execute the plans, we get results we didn't expect, so panic sets in. The four blessings of failure are revealed. Deconstructing how our brain processes fear, and once the process is understood, replace fear with the four blessings it can bring!

Communicate to Heal | Saturday, May 15, 2021, 11:00am | Presenter: Fazeel Gareeboo

As Toastmasters, we have a super-power to fix broken bonds between people because we practice the art of communication. Learn how to heal broken connections. The session will present a method to do this and give you an opportunity to practice. Improve your communication and leadership skills. Learn how to heal broken connections between yourself and others.



On Mission: Intentional Procedures and Passionate Believers | Saturday May 15 2021, 4:30pm | Presenter: Debby Kerr-Henry

As Toastmasters, it is our responsibility to communicate and lead from behind the lectern and into life, both effectively and respectfully. Our mission challenges us to transform from within and beyond. What is our message to ourselves, to our families, to our communities, to our world? And how does "on mission" translate into intentional procedures and passionate believers? This contemplative and engaging session will do a deep dive into our mission, empower self-confidence and personal growth, explore the power of two little words, "What if?", and provide a comprehensive member toolbox.

What to wear for the Costume Contest on Friday night?

The options are endless!

Choose a region or country and dress in the traditional dress.

Division A: *Eastern Europe and Central Asia*

Division B: *Canada and the United States*

Division B: *All regions*

Division D: *Eastern, Western, Central and Southern Africa*

Division E: *East Asia and Pacific*

Division F: *Western Europe*

Division G: *Latin America*

Division H: *Middle East and North Africa*

Division I: *Central America and Caribbean*



China



Indonesia



Belize



Ireland



Norway



Poland



Kenya



Greece



Calling all creatives!

*Are you a writer,
photographer, painter,
jewelry maker, sculptor,
quilter, seamstress, potter,
baker, glass blower,
interior designer, etc.?*

**Now is the time to free that
artistic side you've kept hidden!**

Tables will be available if you would like to only "Showcase or Display" your favorite piece(s) of art from your country. If you wish to sell these items, you must purchase a \$250 sponsorship at

<https://form.jotform.com/210838363302147>

If you have any further questions, please contact Cathy Gorgensen at (407) 534-2409

Inspire others with your art!

Explore your boundaries and go further! We are gratefully accepting donations for our gift baskets. These items are preferably from your home country and must be in excellent condition! Promotional products celebrating your business are also a welcome addition.

Immerse yourself to discover your superpowers!

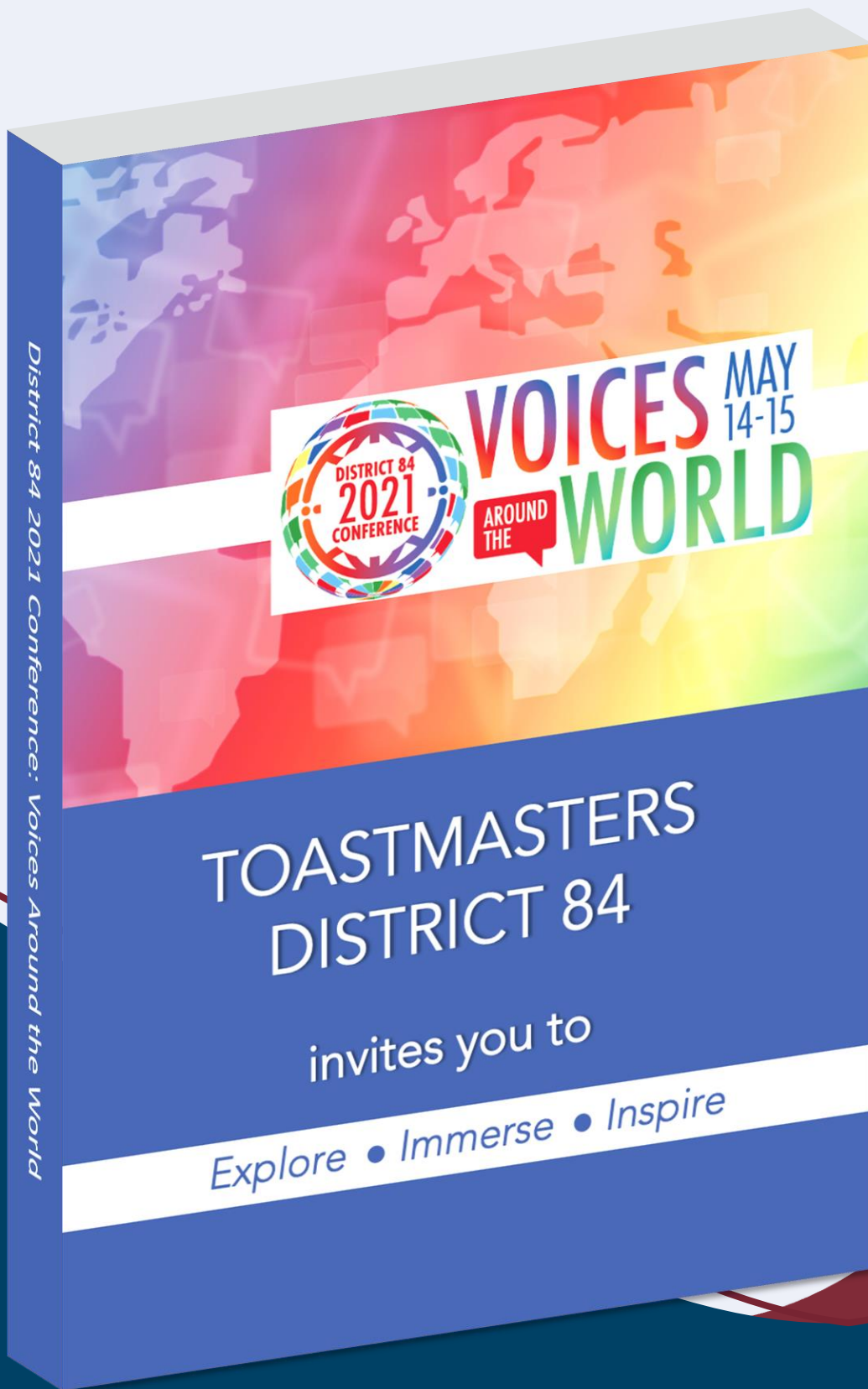
If you wish to sell your wares, 3' x 6' tables will be available to rent for \$250 each. Feel free to share this cost with others. We cannot hang anything on the walls. If you have your own easel, etc., please bring it.

Clean Up Clean Out & Contribute to the Raffle at Conference

Ideas for raffle items
Gifts you received that you will just re-gift anyway. Things you bought and meant to use but never have. Any new or gently used items will be accepted.

- Handmade Crafts
- Office supplies
- Kitchenware
- Items for the grill
- Get creative - group like items together in a basket





Your guide to:

- Conference Program
- Keynote Speakers
- Educational Sessions
- Award Recipients
- Conference Ads
- And much more!

2021 District 84 Conference Book



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Photo and graphic credits: toastmastersd84.org (Pages 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 14, S1, S2),
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toastmastersd.org (Page 9), Rebecca McGilton (10), Page 12 (all headshots submitted by
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