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Renew Your Commitment to Your Club in 2006

Dolores Bergen, DTM, Governor



Happy New Year!

New Year's Resolutions in January are commonplace, but many people do not follow through to the end goal. The commitment is there for a while but soon fades. Why? Motivation for

the long term is missing. Commitment is the first step, but motivation along the way helps people attain their goal successfully.

What keeps you and your club motivated? In the strong clubs, evaluations motivate and encourage members to give their next speech and strive for additional improvements. Installation of club officers and club officer training motivate club leaders to have an efficient, well-run club. Enthusiastic new members motivate club members to hold the best club meeting they can, and well-run meetings motivate new members to participate. Each takes a commitment from you to do your part, either in an active or supportive role. The results of your involvement show in your ability to lead a meeting, give effective feedback and your newly acquired or continued confidence in giving speeches and presentations.

Are you following through on your commitment to your Toastmasters club? This commitment includes manual speeches when scheduled and keeping the club strong in membership. You can help by bringing

guests and encouraging guests to be members. If your club has a member recruitment plan, participate! LGM Rose Renwick's web page, http://www.d4tm.org/District_4/lgm.html, has links to membership recruitment and retention ideas. (When was the last time that your club had a special theme meeting?) You share in your club's success. Renew Your Commitment to make your club strong and successful!

You and Your Club Success Plan Will Make Us a Distinguished District Again

In the article about commitment to your club, I state, "This commitment includes manual speeches when scheduled and keeping the club strong in membership". How does this benefit you as a member and tie in to the club success plan? Let's begin with what a strong, successful club should do and then address how this benefits you.

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During the business time in your meeting, your club officers should be reviewing your club success plan goals for the coming six months, and reporting progress and results. What is included in a club success plan and how is success measured? (Hint: Look at the Distinguished Club Program!)

Members achieving educational awards are giving manual speeches and being evaluated against objectives designed to improve the speaker's speech and presentation style. New members keep a club strong. Trained club officers understand their roles and put plans in place for member and club success. Administrative tasks done on time, such as officer list submittals and dues renewals, ensure the correct material from World Headquarters reaches the correct registered members. Each club should strive to meet a minimum of 5 goals in the Distinguished Club Program by June 30th and to be a Distinguished Club.

How does this benefit you?

Club officers best serve their members by planning for their success and you should know the plan. Leadership, teamwork, setting goals, delegating and many other skills are utilized in the planning process. A review helps keep everyone focused and encouraged to continue his or her progress.

In order to address educational goals, the club-meeting schedule should provide sufficient opportunities to speak so you can achieve an educational award each year. A balance of new and experienced speakers adds richness and learning opportunities for all members. Speak when scheduled and give a manual speech so others may learn from you!

You and your club should plan for your educational achievement by June 30th! **How many more speeches do you need to achieve your CTM, an ATM level, or DTM by June 30th?**

New members benefit the club by contributing new presentation styles, new material, new views, and new energy. As a new member progresses through the Communication and Leadership manual, you have an opportunity to see the basics

being covered and reviewed during the evaluations. Many professional speakers review basic speaking skills to stay sharp!

New members also bring a new audience to the club keeping our audience large, which I've found easier to speak in front of than a small audience of only a few attendees. Each club should recruit at minimum one new member every 6 weeks. **Can you and your club recruit at least 4 members by June 30th?**

Hold an Open House (see Rose Renwick's article on page 9). What a wonderful time of year to encourage people to come to a club meeting! The Distinguished Club Program requires a net growth of 5 new members or a club membership of 20 or more.

Trained club officers: Remember **Club officers best serve you by planning for your success.** Training provides not just what an officer should do, but how and when, and provides resources and contacts from officers to other clubs' officers. All 7 of your club officers should attend training.

When you pay your dues, it's good to know that the **club submitted your dues payment on time.** This keeps you in good-standing as a member and allows you to continue receiving your Toastmaster magazine without interruption, participate in contests and allow your next educational rank to be credited on time, since World Headquarters will list you as a member of the club.

The DCP gives specific administration deadlines to best serve the club and club members. Club officer lists were due by December 31st, and if your club submitted the list on time, **Toastmasters International will have the proper president listed for the current membership list and dropped membership list being mailed this month.**

By doing the above, your club should meet a minimum of 5 goals in the Distinguished Club Program by June 30th. Strive for this goal. Distinguished clubs show that the Toastmasters Program is benefiting its members. Distinguished clubs also support a Distinguished District.

There's more, though. Share the benefits with more than a guest or two, help start a new club! **We need more new club leads** and new clubs to be Distinguished Clubs. Do you know a place that can use a Toastmasters club? Let an officer know. You can benefit by sharpening your mentoring skills as your enthusiasm is revitalized because you got involved by being a sponsor or mentor to a new club.

You and Your Club Success Plan will make District 4 Distinguished for the second year in

a row! Remember: "Toastmasters Make It Happen!"

You can monitor the District's Progress via my web page on the website at: http://d4tm.org/District_4/district_governor.html just click on Performance Report link.

Call for Nominations for Officers 2006-2007 and Nomination Committee Members

Nominations are currently being accepted for: Division Governor (DvG) for Divisions A-H, Public Relations Officer (PRO), Lt. Governor of Marketing (LGM), Lt. Governor of Education and Training (LGET) and Governor (DG). The nomination form can be found at www.d4tm.org along with the specific qualifications for each office and for being a nominating committee member under this link. When completed, e-mail the nomination form to Linda Kenney, DTM, IPDG and Presiding Officer (Chair) of the Nominating Committee at [\[kenney.com\]\(http://kenney.com\) by February 28th or bring it to the nominating committee meeting being held Saturday, March 4, 2006, 1260 Crossman, Sunnyvale, Bldg. 10, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm. At this time the nominating committee will interview and select candidates. Please ensure that all qualifications have been met when nominating yourself or another Toastmaster or if interested in being on the nomination committee. If interested in being a candidate or being on the nominating committee, please contact Linda via e-mail.](mailto:toastmasters@ls-</p></div><div data-bbox=)



Introducing New Awards!

An article in the November's Toastmasters Magazine introduced the new awards debuting in January and featured frequently asked questions (FAQ). New members will now receive two manuals: the Competent Communication manual and the Competent Leadership manual. The requirements for each award follow. For more information, please visit the Toastmasters International Website.

Beginning July 1, 2006, members can earn the following communication and leadership awards:

Communication Track

COMPETENT COMMUNICATOR (CC)

Requirements:

- Completed the Competent Communication manual

ADVANCED COMMUNICATOR BRONZE (ACB)

Requirements:

- Achieved Competent Communicator award (or achieved Competent Toastmaster award)
- Completed two Advanced Communication manuals

ADVANCED COMMUNICATOR SILVER (ACS)

Requirements:

- Achieved Advanced Communicator Bronze award (or achieved Able Toastmaster award - ATM)
- Completed two additional advanced communication manuals (may not be those completed for any previous award)
- Conducted any two programs from The Better Speaker Series and/or The Successful Club Series

ADVANCED COMMUNICATOR GOLD (ACG)

Requirements:

- Achieved Advanced Communicator Silver award (or achieved Able Toastmaster Bronze award – ATM-B - or Advanced Toastmaster Silver award – ATM-S)
- Completed two additional advanced communication manuals (may not be those completed for any previous award)
- Conducted a Success/Leadership Program, Success/Communication Program or a Youth Leadership Program
- Coached a new member with the first three speech projects

Leadership Track

COMPETENT LEADER (CL)

Requirements:

- Completed the Competent Leadership manual

ADVANCED LEADER BRONZE (ALB)

Requirements:

- Achieved Competent Leader award
- Achieved Competent Communicator award (or achieved Competent Toastmaster award)
- Served at least six months as a club officer (president, vice president education, vice president membership, vice president public relations, secretary, treasurer or sergeant at arms) and participated in the preparation of a Club Success Plan while serving in this office
- While serving in the above office, participated in a -sponsored club officer training program
- Conducted any two programs from The Successful Club Series and/or The Leadership Excellence Series

ADVANCED LEADER SILVER (ALS)

Requirements:

- Achieved Advanced Leader Bronze award (or “old” Competent Leader award)
- Served a complete term as an officer (governor, lieutenant governor, public relations officer, secretary, treasurer, division governor or area governor)
- Completed the High Performance Leadership program
- Served successfully as a club sponsor, mentor or coach

DISTINGUISHED TOASTMASTER (DTM)

Requirements:

- Achieved Advanced Communicator Gold award (or achieved Advanced Toastmaster Gold award)
- Achieved Advanced Leader Silver award (or achieved Advanced Leader award)
- Distinguished Toastmaster is the highest educational award a member may receive.

The Toastmasters Forum...

Cheryl Kennedy, CTM, of Pacifica PM, Speaks About Toastmasters

Back in college, I dreaded my speech class. It was the only class on my report card in which I received a D. I had nothing to speak about. Now you can't seem to shut me up.

Four years ago, I joined Toastmasters, an action that totally changed my life. I learned so much from everyone, especially delivering & observing presentations, and infusing humor into my speeches. Vocal variety came easy. Toastmasters helped bring out my creativity and my own inner voice.

My public speaking is integral to my new career as a Certified Master and Medical Hypnotherapist. As a grief counselor and group facilitator in a grief-healing program, I aid in supporting families during times of loss. Without Toastmasters, I would have never been able to make the presentations I make now. I gained confidence to take on these challenges.

I recently spoke at Stanford University's Prevention Research Center on two occasions, one on stress related to grief, loss, and change, the other on pain management with hypnotherapy. At one recent event I hypnotized 100 to 125 people; it will be aired on San Francisco Station 29. Find out more at www.accessf.org/tvprograms.htm. Next April, I will be speaking on a cruise ship giving four presentations. Thank you, Toastmasters, my fear of public speaking is conquered!

And So Does Neel Valame.../

I completed 5 years of my memorable voyage in Toastmasters on December 31st, 2005. It was a journey I have cherished every moment. Not only I learnt plenty of skills in public speaking but built lifelong friendships with number of Toastmasters across the globe.

Toastmasters has not only taught me public speaking and given friends but also honed my skills in learning the art of managing people when I was office bearer for four terms in my club and for two terms on area level. It boosted my confidence couple notches up in working with different people to achieve a major goal. There were ecstatic moments and there were frustrating moments. I did not win some ribbons in spite of giving good speech during my CTM days and I did not win contest when everybody thought it was a terrific speech. The list of happy moments is infinite and far outnumbers the not so happy list.

When I was down in the office due to usual cyclic ups and downs in software careers, Toastmasters helped me maintain the momentum and cheered me up. I could use the energy generated by toastmasters in to my office work and came out winner at the end of the release cycle.

On 21st December 2005 I gave my final speech for a MAJOR milestone in my Toastmaster career: DTM - the highest educational award in Toastmasters International. I know the journey in to public speaking will now really begin when I start speaking outside Toastmasters club from Jan 2006 but I still feel it is a great feeling to achieve DTM award being an immigrant with English as a second language and being somebody who was shy to give speeches in front of large number of Americans. Now I can take on the world. I may still get beaten by evaluators but I will not shiver anymore. :-)

I do not want to try and remember everybody who helped me achieve this feat as the list will be longer than

most of Hollywood Oscar ceremonies and I will still forget some names but when today when I thank all these people who helped me in multiple ways getting to this point, I hope they would know my gratitude towards them.

I hope I will be able to help others achieving even higher peaks of successes in Toastmasters International and my own club, Oracle Speakers (2544)

Hawaii Beckons!

*Don't Miss the Toastmasters International 2006 Region II Conference
June 23-24, 2006
Waikiki Marriott Hotel and Spa*

For updates and additional information check the Region II website: www.tmregion2.org
or call Tricia Evans at (808) 372-2793

Pictures From the District Conference



Left: Left to Right
Steve Benbow, Area D3 Governor, Pacifica PM
Toastmasters; Melba Del Rosario VPE Daly City TM Club; Remy
Riborozo PDG (49) Peninsula TM; Tony DeLeon ATMB/CL
Division D Governor; Flora Nolasco President Peninsula TM; Roma
Aguinaldo Peninsula TM; Linda Berzin - District 4 PRO
Right: Carmen Martin, 3rd Place Winner/Humorous Speech Contest;
Anne Hastings, International Director; Ken Cawley, Governor of
Education and Training





Learn to Serve

Part Two (See previous issue for Part One – “Learn to Serve”)

Ken Cawley, ATM-G, Lt. Governor of Education and Training

As we enter the second half of the Toastmasters year, many club officers are assuming leadership roles for the first time and aren't quite sure what is expected of them. Other officers are assuming a new role and are discovering it's quite different from the offices they've held previously. Still others are continuing in a role they assumed in July and are wondering how they can do a better job.

These feelings are common. Every officer within Toastmasters from club Sergeant-at-Arms to the club Presidents to Governors to International Directors has felt the same way at one time or another. I know I have and I do. The question is what can be done to help the new and continuing officers better serve their fellow members? The obvious answer is **training**.

Toastmasters International has created training programs to provide officers at all levels within the organization the knowledge and tools they need to be successful in their roles. Club officer training has been designed with the idea of helping officers satisfy more members, have more exciting club meetings, attract more new members and, as a result, achieve more personal goals as well as create more Distinguished clubs.

In my last article, I addressed the question many experienced officers ask - why they must attend training twice a year even if their term is a full year or they have held the office before. A quick recap of the first article in this series summarizes the benefits of serving as a club officer as follows:

- Officers have an opportunity to discuss any problems they may be having.
- Officers have the opportunity to meet with other officers and obtain new ideas for improving their own clubs.
- Experienced officers have the opportunity to share their knowledge with new or less experienced officers.

You club officers can build on those benefits. I encourage experienced club officers to share their knowledge and experience by acting as a trainer. Simply contact me directly or your District Governor Dolores Bergen and sign on.

Club officer training sessions will be conducted through the end of February. Ten to fifteen sessions will be offered at different times and locations to meet the scheduling needs of all members. Information for the sessions is posted on the website with new sessions added periodically.

Finally, I want to applaud and congratulate all club officers for accepting leadership roles. Best of luck in your term as you *Learn to Serve* your fellow club members.



Looking for that Next Challenge?

Maybe It's Time to Consider a Leadership Role Beyond Your Club

4 Needs Leaders

- Area and Division Governors for 2006-2007
- Committee Chairs for 2006-2007
- Spring 2006 Area and Division Contest Chairs
- Spring 2006 Conference Chairs and Committee Members
- Club Mentors and Sponsors

(Continued on page 8)

Appointed District Offices

- Area Governor
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Parliamentarian
- Sergeant-at-Arms

Governor Chairs

- Audit Committee
- Credentials
- Distinguish Area
- Distinguish Division
- Historian
- Officer Nominating Committee

Lt. Governor Education & Training

- Education
- Club Officer Training Statistician
- Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 Conference
- Leadership Excellence

Lt. Governor Marketing Chairs

- Club Coach
- Club Extension
- Club Leads
- Dues Chair
- Club Retention
- Realignment
- Recognition
- Speechcraft
- Youth Leadership

Public Relations Officer Chairs

- Newsletter Editor
- Club Office Lists
- Directory Chair
- Hotline Chair
- Speakers Bureau Chair
- d4tm.org Web Team
- Judges Bureau Chair



Contact Dolores Bergen at dg@d4tm.org if you're interested in serving as a Officer or Committee Chair/Member.

More Pictures...



Upper Left:
A Happy Dolores Bergen!
Lower Left: Linda Berzin & Liz Villanueva
Lower Right: Toastmasters at the District Conference.





An Inside Job

-Rose Renwick, DTM, Lt. Governor of Marketing

Questions about Dues payments?

Ask Dues Chair, Eve-Lyn Ragland at
EveRagland@hotmail.com

Have your CTM? Take advantage of speaking opportunities. Contact your LGM to serve as a Demo Meeting Speaker at a new club's organizational meeting. Present a manual speech, get credit for it, and network with officers and leaders. Meet interesting new people you can invite as guest speakers to liven up your club meetings.

Use your leadership talent! CTMs and above, make coaching a low membership club as a High Performance Leadership Project towards your DTM. This will also improve your skills for leading a project. Contact Club Coach Chair, Louise Wolfe, DTM to learn when and how you can take on such a club-transforming project. www.d4ccc@yahoo.com Serve as a Club Coach and earn a Governor's pin!

ATMs advance. Serve as a new Club Sponsor (help a new club until it charters), or serve as a new Club Mentor (serve for a specified 6 month period helping them "do it the Toastmasters way.") Serve successfully as either a Club Sponsor or Mentor and earn a Governor's pin! Contact your LGM for details at www.wldroz@yahoo.com

Doubling up on roles? Are you using the District's Hotline to find people already looking for a club? (Why not yours?) (866) 251-7363. Contact Hotline Chair, Carolyn Taylor at www.clevertouch@rcn.com. She is ready to assist you.

The decision to make necessary change comes from inside the club, and help comes from the Club Coach Chair, Louise Wolfe, DTM, at

www.d4ccc@yahoo.com. Don't junk your club. Your members have already invested lots of time and energy into your club. Be a responsible club steward and don't neglect your club. Follow the Distinguished Club Program to keep it in good shape. Entrust it to others who care when you choose to move on.

Strengthen your club by holding an Open House. Advertise and use the Open House Flyer on the LGM's page at www.d4tm.org. Send an e-vite. www.e-vite.com Advertise on www.craigslist.com. And for a successful Open House guide see www.toastmastersd57.com/clubbuilding.htm - Thank you District 57!

Serve refreshments, and have Membership Application Forms filled in except for name and address. Do this quarterly to add spark and members.

Be a Marketing Magnet! When you bring a new club lead to District 4 between now and June 30, 2006 that results in a newly chartered club you earn a Governor's pin! E-mail District 4's Club Extension Coordinator, Joe Madley, DTM with name, contact number and e-address of your business or community leads. joemadley@yahoo.com.

Finally, if every member invites just one guest per month, and every Club adds just one new member per month, you will have done your job. That's all I ask. If you do this, you will gain and District 4 will be a Distinguished District or better by June.

Remember, success begins as an inside job.

From the Desk of the Public Relations Officer

Linda Berzin

4 Public Relations Director

PRO@D4tm.org



Humankind's most striking trait is rational cognition. Seventeenth century philosopher Rene Descartes made self-awareness the cornerstone of modern rationalism with the famous quote, "Cogito ergo sum" or "I think therefore I am."

As Toastmasters, we are fortunate to have many training opportunities. These opportunities allow us to stimulate our minds and become more creative thinkers. Toastmasters International is an astonishing organization. It has helped more than 4 million people around the world become more effective speakers and leaders. About 211,000 members are in approximately 10,500 Toastmasters clubs around the world. Each year about 1/3 of these members leave the organization and are replaced by new members.

This means that approximately one third of the club officers are new or inexperienced. Yet, we rely on these very officers to keep our clubs going and to conduct the Toastmasters program to keep their membership healthy and successful. This is where club officer training comes in. Remember, "Cogito ergo sum". If the Toastmaster organization is to succeed in their mission, then we must make certain that the tools our club officers need are available to them to ensure that club meetings are exciting, fulfilling, and satisfying to members.

District 4 puts on the Toastmasters Leadership Institute for this very purpose. Since we have no paid teachers or trainers to conduct these programs, we rely on Toastmasters taking the "Train the Trainer" course to continue the successful steps in building each members speaking and leadership abilities.

Having members attend trainings is a challenge, because many other things are competing for their time outside of club meetings, such as, jobs, family, friends, and hobbies. Importantly, these trainings are quality products that will help **you** be successful as a Toastmaster, as well as in your job, and with your family and friends.

You learn how to gain enthusiastic cooperation to influence people through trust and respect. You learn how to use enthusiasm to expand your sphere of influence and create a synergy as you work together with other Toastmasters. Your enthusiastic cooperation increases your productivity as well as your clubs productivity as you learn to remove artificial barriers. You become more flexible and see yourself and your Toastmaster environment in a new way.

I challenge all club officers and those wanting to improve themselves and their clubs to attend a - sponsored TLI or any Area or Division sponsored officer training. Increase your self-confidence, open yourself to change and to opportunity, and learn to take risks as you learn to build a strong team and club. Use your mind and develop your talents and skills!

The world stands aside to let anyone pass, who knows where he or she is going.

-- David Starr Jordan

Opportunity Speakers... Wants You!!

An Opportunity to Take Your Speaking, Evaluating, & Listening Skills to the Next Level!

Our club is an Advanced Toastmasters club. Membership is open to those who are already members of another Toastmasters club and have achieved their CTM. We focus entirely on prepared speeches and quality evaluations in a round-robin format. We welcome those who are working on their Basic or Advanced manuals and on other modules within any of the communication and leadership series, including Better Club, Better Speaker, Leadership Excellence, Success/Leadership, and Success/Communication.

Join us the first Tuesday of every month from 6:45 to 9:00 p.m. at the Tennessee Grill (upstairs meeting room) at 1128 Taraval (at 22nd Ave.), San Francisco.

Why not come to our next meeting and check it out for yourself? Guests are always welcome, including regular Toastmasters!

For further info, contact the club V.P. PR & Public Relations, Phil Taylor, DTM, PID, at 650-634-7234 or 408-734-2703 -- or email phildtm@yahoo.com.

Some Sad News

Samme Jacobson, DTM, passed away on January 7th. She joined her husband of 54 years, Orlin, DTM. They both were Toastmasters for 30 years. Samme and Orlin were members of Sequioa Toastmasters and for the past ten years or more Cupertino Toastmasters. See the *San Jose Mercury News* Obituary Notices for January 17 for their column on Samme.

Services were held at Faith Lutheran Church, Saturday January 21st at 11:00 a.m. on 16548 Ferris Avenue, Los Gatos. Memorial donations may be sent to Faith Lutheran or Santa Clara G.S. Council.

NEED A SPEAKER FOR AN EVENT? HOW ABOUT A GUEST SPEAKER AT YOUR CLUB?

The District 4 Speakers Bureau can help!

Whether or not your organization is involved in Toastmasters, the Speakers Bureau can match speakers with events. The Speakers Bureau offers speakers with a variety of skill levels. Contact Speaker's Bureau Chairperson [Janice Horn](#) for more information.

HELP WANTED

Club Coaches - Assist low membership clubs in becoming distinguished by June 30, 2006. Guide and motivate a small club in implementing DCP Success Plan and rebuilding membership. No experience necessary. Will train. Openings currently available in all divisions.

Successful completion counts towards AL award, and can also be used as High Performance Leadership project. Contact: d4ccc@yahoo.com for further details or to apply. Other volunteer opportunities are available, also working with low-membership clubs.

DISTRICT 4 TOASTMASTERS



Linda Berzin, ATMS
Public Relations Officer
725 St. Lawrence Court
Pacifica, CA 94044

February 1-28	Club Officer training continues (Training Schedule). Note that training is for both semiannually and annually elected officers
February 1	Talk-Up Toastmasters program begins
February 1-28	Club Contests - Table Topics & International Speech (Contest Materials).
February 10	Midyear Audit Report to World Headquarters
February 15	Club Treasurers: Begin collecting dues (Submit Deadline: March 31)
February 18	District Operating Committee meeting Division Governors recommends realignment to District Executive Committee
February 28	End of Club Officer Training (Training Stats)