

# Toastmasters District 9

June 2014 Newsletter

Publisher: [Jon Meyer](#), District Governor • Editor: [Kathy Hansen](#), District Public Relations Officer  
[District Web Site](#) • [District Facebook Group](#)

## Moving Up and Moving On 2013-2014 Trio Members Sum Up the Year

June 30 marks the end of the Toastmasters year, and the top three district leaders offer their final comments of their current year in office:

■ **Jon Meyer, 2013-2014 District Governor/2014-2015 Immediate Past District Governor.** I'm



rarely at a loss for words. In fact, people who know me well probably wish it would happen more often. But, as I write this, my final newsletter column as a District Governor, I find that I have a lot I'd like to say, but very few words presenting themselves to help me express my thoughts.

District 9 has had a successful year. As I write this, we are No. 1 in the region for new clubs and No. 2 for membership growth, while being well into the top third of districts internationally,

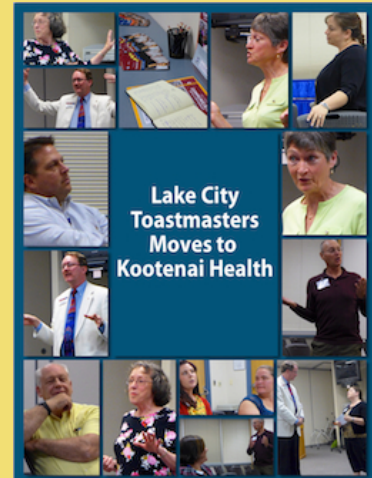
That's before the new Fairchild AFB club and its members are counted. Counting Fairchild, we've added four new clubs this year, including Great Valley TM, Panda Expressions, and Universal Voices. Thank you to all the club sponsors and mentors and everyone else who worked so hard to charter these clubs and get them off to a strong start.

Sadly, we've also seen two clubs close, Blue Mountain Toastmasters in La Grande and Power Speakers in Richland.

## Join the District 9 Facebook Group



The [District 9 Facebook group](#) has almost 240 members and is a great way to share successes and keep up with District news and announcements. Any group member can post to the group and add more members. Members of the Facebook group see photos and news items like the one below:



Lake City Toastmasters is moving its meetings to Kootenai Health and enjoying remarkable support from the facility's management, who are committed to leadership and communication training for the staff. Testimonials targeted to the value of Toastmasters for healthcare workers were the main feature of informational meetings to attract new members from the Kootenai Health ranks. D9ers Mark Havens and Pam Beasley shared their healthcare backgrounds: a

That is never happy news, but sometimes it is inevitable and the loss can help free resources for the future.

Our district's incoming leadership team, led by Natalie, Jim and Kathy, is strong and talented. I know you all join me in wishing them great success and will all pitch in to help and support them as they lead us into a strong future for District 9.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our District,

Jon

■ **Natalie Palmer, 2013-2014 Lt. Gov. Education and Training/2014-2015 District Governor** – Once again, I'm in awe of the District 9 community. This truly is a district where relationships matter.

I'd like to extend my deepest appreciation and whole hearted recognition to this year's conference chairs: Kristina Stepper and Lloyd Smith for Wenatchee, and Charlie Mc Cary and Brenda Pangborn for Pasco. Their hard work and efforts provided our district with two excellent conferences, packed with fellowship and learning opportunities.

I'd also like to say "thank you" to our out-going club officers. Whether your role was large or small, your service to your club members has made a difference. Thank you so much for your feedback and willingness to try new things.

And finally, to all our District 9 Toastmasters: you are the reason I'm here. I love hearing about your goals, triumphs, and accomplishments. When I see the list of educational and leadership awards you have each accomplished this year, my heart sings.

I hope you will take time as we enter the new year to set goals, and share them with your club. Do you want to tell funny stories with confidence? Give better evaluations? Finish your first CC and start an advanced manual?

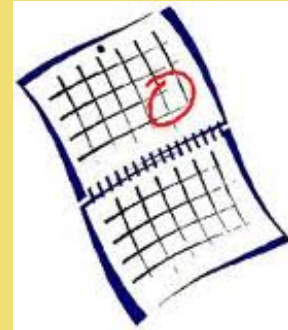
If you belong to Facebook, I'd like to invite you to connect with our [District Facebook page](#). It is a forum for sharing district news, member accomplishments, and educational tidbits. We'd love to connect with you!

Congratulations on finishing the Toastmasters year – away we go for the next one!

■ **Jim Marquardt, 2013-2014 Lt. Gov. Marketing/2014-2015 Lt. Gov. Education and Training** – I would like to thank you all for this past year as Lt. Gov. Marketing. It has

their healthcare backgrounds, a testimonial based on the previous healthcare experience of 2014-2015 District Governor Natalie Palmer was read. Kim and Lew Brown of Lake City Toastmasters organized and facilitated, along with Joanne Bloodgood of Kootenai Health. Past District Governor Dave Weidner attended, as did some members of the Lake City club.

## Mark Your Calendar!



**Important dates in June, July, and beyond** (for updates between newsletters, please see [District Calendar](#)):

### June

**Throughout June** – Submit education award applications online for faster service. Toastmasters International receives more member award applications in June than at any other time of the year. As a result, members who apply for awards this month may experience a delay in receiving their certificates. To avoid delays, log in to Club Central to submit award applications online.

**June 30 – Deadline to submit updated officer list to World Headquarters.** To receive Distinguished Club credit, please notify World Headquarters of your newly elected club officers by June 30. Simply log in to submit your updated officer list. Go to [toastmasters.org](http://toastmasters.org), log in, and go to Club Central.

**Submit  
2014-2015  
Officer List**

been a year of learning and growing. It was certainly my pleasure to be part of your Trio.

I am excited to move ahead this coming Toastmaster year as your Lt. Gov. Education and Training. If you ever have concerns or questions, feel free to [email me \(jimmarquardt@gmail.com\)](mailto:jimmarquardt@gmail.com) or give me a call.

District 9 is the best district to belong to, and I am so humbled to be at your service.

Your LGM (last time I can say that), Jim Marquardt, ACS, ALB.

### **First 100 registrants get free book**

### **Fall Conference Theme Set, Registration Open; Come 'Party Around the World' for TI's 90th**

District 9 Toastmasters are invited to "Party Around the World" this October in celebration of the 90th anniversary of Toastmasters and the international aspect of Toastmasters International. The decorations, menu, first-timers event, and more will feature an international flair.

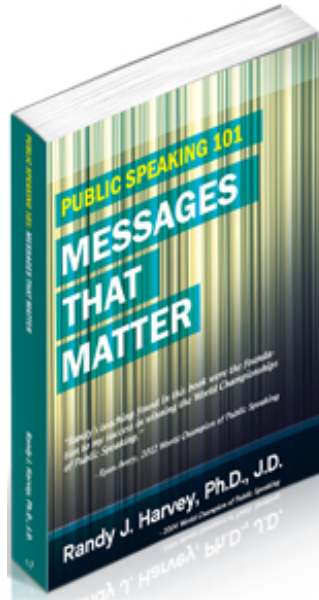
Keynoter [Randy Harvey](#) is offering a free, autographed copy of his book [Messages That Matter](#) to the first 100 conference registrants. [Learn more and register here.](#)

The Education Committee is accepting proposals through June 30 from D9ers who would like to present an education session at the conference. Prospective presenters can submit a proposal using [this form](#).

Also featured at the conference will be Toastmasters International First Vice President Mike Storkey, who will add to the conference's international flavor since he hails from Queensland, Australia.

The conference committee, headed by Chair Nancy Shatto, is busy planning a fun-filled Friday-night social event, and optional Sunday breakfast event with the keynoter, exciting Table Topics and Humorous Speech Contests, awards ceremonies, and the traditional silent auction and 50-50 raffle.

The committee still needs volunteers, especially for generating publicity, coordinating volunteers, organizing the silent auction, and overseeing prospect visits. Entire clubs are



**to Toastmasters  
International  
by June 30.**

**Without an  
officer list on file,  
your club does  
not "exist."**

**June 30 – End [Beat the Clock Membership Drive](#).**



**June 30 – Deadline for Distinguished Club Program (DCP).**

**July**

**July 1 – New Toastmasters year begins. New club and district officers installed.**

**July 12 – Training for new district officers (Area Governors, Division Governors, and more). [See District Calendar](#) for details.**

**July and August – First-Round Club Officer Training. Contact your 2014-2015 Division Governor for details:**

- Division A: [Kristina Stepper](#)
- Division C: [Ed Newman](#)
- Division B: [Allen Hanson](#)
- Division D: [Christine Meyer](#)

### **District 9 Officers 2013-2014**

District Officer listings include the District Trio – District Governor, Lieutenant Governor Education and Training, and Lieutenant Governor

Marketing – and will alternate to include Division and Area Governors one month and additional district officers the next. You can download the complete list of officers [here](#).

**District Governor (DG)  
Jon Meyer**

serving as conference committees, so if your club would like to pitch in and gain invaluable leadership experience, please volunteer for one of the remaining committees by contacting [Nancy Shatto](mailto:Nancy_Shatto) at [nshatto@watrust.com](mailto:nshatto@watrust.com).

## **'Fellow Toastmasters wouldn't allow me to quit!' Lynette Charity Tells Her Story**

*By District 9 2014 International Speech Contest Winner  
Lynette Charity*

[Editor's note: *After representing District 9 as 2013's District International Speech Contest champion and competing in the World Championship of Public Speaking at the 2013 Toastmasters International Convention in Cincinnati, OH, Lynette is on her way back to the World Championship (this time in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), having again won the District contest. Her winning speech this year is entitled "Click Three Times" and has a Wizard of Oz theme.*]



I joined Toastmasters in December 2012. I had completed the obligatory six speeches prior to competing and received my Competent Communicator award just before the World Championship.

Prior to the BIG stage, I had given my speeches to local Toastmasters Club groups of up to 12 people. I was not prepared for the experience I had in Cincinnati. I was quite nervous, but when I took the stage as the last contestant in my group of nine, I knew I had a "winning" speech. I was quite confident, almost too much so.

My deliveries of my speech to the various clubs were consistently timed at 6:45. However, when I began my speech at the World Championship, I lost track of time.

The audience and I "connected," and with at least 200 people present, the interaction and laughter ate away my "cushion."

At one point, an audience member made a comment, and I momentarily "forgot" my speech. More time lost. When I concluded, I knew that I had given a winning speech and was unpleasantly surprised at my time disqualification.

[tmd9dg@gmail.com](mailto:tmd9dg@gmail.com)

**Lt Governor of Education and Training (LGET)**  
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**Lt Governor of Marketing (LGM)**  
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**Public Relations Officer (PRO)**  
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**District Webmaster**  
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**District Treasurer**  
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**District Secretary**  
Debra Kroon Yates  
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**Immediate Past District Governor (IPDG)**  
Nancy Shatto  
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**Club Coach Chair**  
Brenda Pangborn  
[tmbrendap@charter.net](mailto:tmbrendap@charter.net)

**Prison Club Chair**  
Gary Hildebrand  
[toastmastergary@gmail.com](mailto:toastmastergary@gmail.com)

**Club Sponsor/Mentor Chair**  
Vacant

**District Chief Judge**  
Vacant

## **Update on Revitalized Education Program**

As District Chief Ambassador Ed Keeney explained at the recent Spring Conference, the rollout of the Revitalized Education Program (REP)



has been delayed until mid-2015.

While much is still unknown about the program, a good source of information is the [set of slides](#) issued for Ambassadors by Toastmasters, along with the more detailed accompanying transcript.

was unpleasantly surprised at my time disqualification.  
7:38!

My initial reaction was "I quit!" I felt that the months of preparation had been wasted. I had failed. Many people approached me and told me how much they had enjoyed my speech, and they expected to see me back. In my head, I wasn't coming back. I had put my ALL into both my Semifinals and Finals speeches. I was spent. I returned home planning to quit Toastmasters and give up on my dream of becoming a motivational speaker.

An amazing thing happened. My fellow Toastmasters wouldn't allow me to quit! My friends and coaches wouldn't allow me to quit! And finally I didn't allow myself to quit! [Read the rest of Lynette's story here.](#)

### **Presented at Fall Conference** **Your Nominations Sought for "of the Year" Awards**



One of the highlights of the Fall Conference awards ceremony is the presentation of "of the year" awards, including:

- Toastmaster of the Year (cannot be a district officer)
- Division Governor of the Year
- Area Governor of the Year

The incoming district Trio seeks nominations from across the district for these special awards. Have you seen a Toastmaster go way above and beyond in serving members in this past year? Have you noticed a high-performing and dedicated Division or Area Governor? Why not nominate a deserving

peer Toastmaster for one of these coveted awards?

To refresh your memory of the current Division and Area Governors, see the [2013-2014 district alignment here](#).  
Toastmaster of the Year **cannot** be a district officer.

Please submit your nominations for "of the Year" awards to 2014-2015 District Governor [Natalie Palmer](#) at [natalie.palmer.tm@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.palmer.tm@gmail.com).

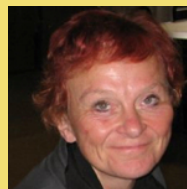
### **Fourteen Clubs Attain Status of Distinguished Club or Higher**

As we go to press, and with two weeks remaining in the Toastmasters year, District 9 boasts 14 clubs that are Distinguished or better.



### **PR**ouncements

By Public Relations Officer (PRO)  
Kathy Hansen



This is my final newsletter after two years as editor!

My goal in my two years as D9's Public Relations

Officer has been not only to publicize clubs, members, events, and the district as a whole, but to provide members with tools to enhance their own publicity efforts for their clubs. I'm pleased to have mostly met those goals, embodied to a great extent on the [Publicity Resources page](#) of the D9 site.

If you are an incoming 2014-2014 Area or Division Governor, I strongly encourage you to announce your new position in your local newspaper. You'll find templates for Area and Division Governor press releases on the [Publicity Resources page](#).

The latest addition to the [page](#) is a template for a club-officer election/installation press release, as well as a sample release. I encourage clubs to customize those and send them to the media.

Every time we put the Toastmasters name and our local club information in front of the community, we insert a tickler in the minds of those who are already considering Toastmasters and raise the awareness of those unfamiliar with our organization. Yes, it's much easier to get items like these published in small, community publications than in our more urban areas, but we need to keep trying to get the word out.

I am also proud of the progress we've made in improving the Web presence of our community clubs and ensuring that their Web presence is accurate on the Toastmasters.org site. In my year as Lt. Gov. Marketing, I will continue promoting the goal of a Web presence for every community club. Need help

Our district goal is 25 distinguished clubs, and it's a virtual certainty that we will add more to the roster by June 30. Your club still has time to meet DCP goals! Make sure the online DCP report accurately reflects your club's accomplishments. If you find discrepancies, please contact [Member Services](#) to help ensure your club receives the credit it deserves.

Here is the list of stellar clubs to date:

■ **President's Distinguished – 9 or more goals met + membership goal):** Colville Toastmasters, Atomic City, Insiders

■ **Select Distinguished – 7 or more goals met + membership goal:** Cascade Speakeasy, Lab Oratories, Spokane Falls, Cay Uma Wa, ConAgra Foods Lamb Weston Tater Talkers, Tri-Cities, Spokane Uptowners, Coeur d'Alene.

■ **Distinguished – 5 or more goals met + membership goal:** Speech Masters Advanced, Spokane Valley, Liberty Lakers.

## Alignment Changes; Area Governor Vacancies Cry Out for the Next Wave of Leaders

At the recent business meeting at the Spring 2014 Conference, members voted on a 2014-2015 District alignment (which indicates which Area and Division each club falls into) that is a bit different from the 2013-2014 alignment. That alignment will be available soon.

Volunteers are sought for the remaining District Officer vacancies:

- Area A2 Governor
- Area A3 Governor
- Area A4 Governor
- Area B3 Governor
- Area D1 Governor
- District Secretary

All of these positions count for Advanced Leader Silver credit for those working on the Distinguished Toastmaster award. Several other positions also are available that do not count for ALS credit but provide excellent leadership experience. Contact 2014-2015 District Governor [Natalie Palmer](#) at [natalie.palmer.tm@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.palmer.tm@gmail.com) if you would like to serve.

## Searching for Speech-Topic Ideas

By 2014-2015 PRO Darlene Marquardt

Sometimes the hardest part about giving a speech is deciding what to speak about. How do you come up with ideas? Well, if you have an adventurous life and do many crazy and out-of-

with that? Is your Web presence correct on [Find-a-Club](#)? Contact me for site help ([kathy@quintcareers.com](mailto:kathy@quintcareers.com)) or for assistance in getting listed correctly.

I have learned more than I ever could have imagined as PRO, and even at my advanced age, this leadership experience has boosted my career. I've also had a blast meeting the wonderful members of District 9.

I am thrilled beyond measure that I will have the chance to continue serving you as Lt. Gov. Marketing.

I leave the newsletter and the PRO function in the capable hands of Darlene Marquardt. I'm sure you'll be hearing from her soon!

Finally, I want to thank the District Governors under whom I've served, Nancy Shatto and Jon Meyer, for their "publisher" roles and stalwart proofreaders/copyeditors, Jim Miller and Christine Meyer. I note that all four are DTMs!

Happy trails!

## June Club Anniversaries



Happy anniversary to District clubs that were chartered in June:

- Coeur d'Alene Toastmasters, June 1, 1943, 71 years
- Tri Cities Toastmasters Club, June 1, 1955, 58 years
- Post Falls Club, June 1, 1989, 25 years
- Cascade Speakeasy Club, June 1, 2000, 14 years
- Power Speakers, June 8, 2009, 5 years
- High Desert Club, June 29, 2009, 5 years



one-to-one things daily, your life is full of things to talk about.

But in reality, most of us live a fairly mundane, ordinary life, not so full of life's illustrations and innovative ideas for a vibrant exciting speech. So then, what can you do?

Well I LOVE, I mean really love, to research and discover. So here's where the Internet becomes my best friend. To begin, do a Google search using the words "searching for toastmaster speech ideas" and voila! A bunch of links, mostly from Toastmasters.org, pop up on the screen. Follow the links and begin reading the ideas of others. You will be truly surprised at the assistance that you can get just from the toastmasters.org Website.

As Toastmasters, we have that HUGELY valuable resource. I have yet to search for something there, whether a speech idea or a document that I need, and not been able to find it; so many resources are at our fingertips. Here's [just one of the links](#) that I followed.

Happy Toastmastering – the best group of people in the world to help you gain confidence, improve your leadership skills and become a better communicator.

Above, members of the Post Falls Club celebrate their 25th anniversary.

### District Mission

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

