

# Toastmasters District 9

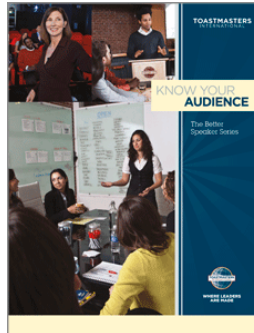
February 2013 Newsletter

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

## District 9 Clubs That Commit to April Communication Workshops by March 4 Can Get District-Supported Publicity

District 9 encourages clubs to offer "Free Communication Workshops," which the District will promote with both free media and paid advertising. Clubs can conduct the workshops over one or two weeks in the second half of April.

The workshops are intended as both a membership-building tool, as well as for the benefit of existing members.



Content possibilities are open. Clubs can use the modules from the [Better Speaker Series](#), or develop their own ideas. A sample from the series (which is available as free digital content) is pictured above.

In media markets with multiple clubs, the District will list the individual theme of each club's workshop(s) in promotional materials.

Clubs should contact District Governor [Nancy Shatto](#) by **March 4** and let her know the following:

- Dates you want to participate (with meeting time, location, and club contact)
- Your regular meeting time, location, and club contact, if different from the information for the event
- Theme
- List of media contacts (free and paid) in the club's media market.

### ***District Governor's Corner:***

***Check Out the District DCP Scoreboards:***

## Join the District 9 Facebook Group



The [District 9 Facebook group](#) has almost 120 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 are currently posting photos from second-round club-officer training sessions and Leadership Workshops, such as the photo below of **Area C4 Governor Linda Karalfa** presenting at the Spokane Falls workshop:



## Mark Your Calendar!



## Clubs Are Progressing Toward Distinguished Club Status



Since last month's newsletter, half of District 9's clubs have made progress toward Distinguished Club status, as seen in the scoreboard below (as of Feb. 12).

How's your club doing on the DCP requirements? To see where your club stands, [click here](#).

Goals to Date	# of clubs	
5+ goals	17	Wow, 7 more since Jan!
4 goals	10	Keep up the great work!
3 goals	7	You are on the right track!
2 goals	11	Almost ½ way there!
1 goal	14	It's not too late to come up with a plan for 2013!
0 goals	4	Half the clubs since Jan have moved up – Time to get on board!

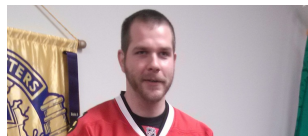
Members needed	# of clubs	
0-1 member	14	AWESOME!
2-3 members	17	EXCELLENT!
4-5 members	12	1 member a month, and you'll be there!
6-7 members	13	Take the 1+1 Challenge!
8+ members	7	Time for a membership drive!

In other news, District 9 has successfully completed its mid-year financial audit with Toastmasters International.

### *Toastmasters in the News*

## Greg Szabo of Vision Speaks Club Credits Toastmasters for Employee of the Year Honors

Greg Szabo took speech classes in college in Illinois, but "never got over the nerves," he says. Greg, a member of the Vision Speaks Toastmasters club at



### Important dates in February, March, and beyond:

#### February

Various dates; see [spreadsheet](#): Second-round club-officer training.

Various dates until April 30: Second-round Area Governor visits.

#### Spring: Spring Speech

Contests (International Speech Contest and Evaluation Contest). [Click here](#); please check back for updates.

Club contests – Feb/March

Area contests – April

Division contests – early May

District contest – June 1



#### March

March 4 – Deadline to commit to District Gov. Nancy Shatto if your club will participate in District-supported April Communication Workshops.

#### April

April 1 – Spring dues submitted to Toastmasters International.

#### May 2013

May 31-June 2 – District 9 Spring Conference, University Inn, Moscow, ID. Contact publicity chair [Patti Mann](#) for more information.

#### Ongoing



Inland Northwest Lighthouse for the Blind in Spokane, credits his Toastmasters experience with his being named one of two Lighthouse for the Blind Employees of the Year. Required to give a speech as part of the Employee of the Year competition process in Seattle, Greg says he still felt the nerves but got over them and felt he was "in the zone" during the speech.

Greg, who was born with retinitis pigmentosa and developed severe eyesight problems at age 22, also had the benefit of having practiced his Employee of the Year speech at Vision Speaks and obtaining feedback from club members. At the Seattle competition, he says, he "felt comfortable in front of the group – the most comfortable I've ever felt." The audience in Seattle praised his speech, suggesting the talk clinched his Employee of the Year honor.

Greg has been a senior production worker at Inland Northwest Lighthouse in Spokane for a year and a half and a member of Vision Speaks since June 2012. He was one of four employees nominated for Inland Northwest Lighthouse at the Spokane facility and also had to give a "pitch" there before being chosen to go on to the Seattle event. Greg and his co-winner, Larry Irvin, will next attend the National Industries for the Blind (NIB) National Conference in Maryland, where he will compete for the Peter J. Salmon award, which honors employees who excel in their positions at NIB associated agencies. Greg is unsure whether that competition will include a speech, but he is prepared for the possibility.



As noted in an article about Greg's honor in Lighthouse's publication *Horizons*, Greg enjoys playing and coaching goalball, a team sport designed



**1+1 Campaign: 2012-2013**  
Toastmasters International President John Lau invites all Toastmasters to join him in inviting friends and acquaintances to visit a Toastmasters Club and be part of the Toastmasters Movement. Members can visit [this page](#) to learn more about the 1+1 campaign and how members, clubs, and districts can participate and be rewarded.

### **District 9 Officers 2012-2013**

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)**

Nancy Shatto  
[nshatto@watrust.com](mailto:nshatto@watrust.com)

#### **Lt Governor of Education and Training (LGET)**

Jon Meyer  
[tmd9lget@gmail.com](mailto:tmd9lget@gmail.com)

#### **Lt Governor of Marketing (LGM)**

Natalie Palmer  
[joenatpalmer@yahoo.com](mailto:joenatpalmer@yahoo.com)

#### **Division A Governor**

Katherine Degel  
[kidegel@yahoo.com](mailto:kidegel@yahoo.com)

#### **Area A1 Governor**

Kristina Stepper  
[kristina@nwi.net](mailto:kristina@nwi.net)

#### **Area A2 Governor**

Dale Mundell  
[dalejmundell@gmail.com](mailto:dalejmundell@gmail.com)

#### **Area A3 Governor**

Carmen Knoke  
[knokec@yahoo.com](mailto:knokec@yahoo.com)

#### **Area A4 Governor**

Teresa Josephson



**Greg Szabo**

"The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc. is a great organization that has improved my life immensely," says Greg Szabo, Senior Production Worker at Inland Northwest Lighthouse (INL) in Spokane, WA. "People should take a tour of the Lighthouse just to see how functional a person with visual disabilities can be, and to enlighten them as to what we are capable of."

Growing up in a small community of Aurora, Illinois, Greg was born with bilateral Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) and began experiencing severe problems with his eyesight at the age of 22. He graduated from Washington Community College in Sugar Grove, IL, with an AA degree in Liberal Arts, with a focus on Journalism. "The town I lived in had no public transportation, so finding work was difficult," Greg notes. "It wasn't until I moved to Portland in August of 2010 that I found work at an indoor dog park a good six years after graduating college."

While living in Portland, Greg became involved with a local team sport designed for athletes who are blind. While participating in a softball tournament in Portland, a friend of his, Steve Finn, Spokane, noticed him play and enlisted him to help out a fledgling team in Spokane called the Spokane Sigs. Greg got their team organized and off the ground. It was in this relationship that Greg met several employees of INL and learned about the organization and its mission.

It was swiftly hired into the organization and now plays and coaches the Spokane Sigs team.

"My favorite thing about working at the Lighthouse is having people around you understand and realize that individuals who are blind are capable of anything," Greg adds. "I have been able to show other individuals who are blind the skills I've obtained throughout my life, both in independent living and work skills. I've gained experience as a dog of machinery never thought I would work on. Benjamin internal auditor is something I never thought I'd be involved with."

When Greg isn't hard at work at INL, he coaches and plays center in softball in an active indoor park and computer, and also enjoys hiking with his guide dog Finn.

*Continued on inside page.*

for blind athletes; playing guitar; writing songs; and hiking with his guide dog Finn. The day Pam Beasley, long-time friend of Vision Speaks, took the above photo of Greg and Finn was Finn's fourth anniversary as Greg's guide dog.

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**Division B Governor**

Jim Marquardt  
[marquardt\\_jim@yahoo.com](mailto:marquardt_jim@yahoo.com)

**Area B1 Governor**

Chris Thackaberry  
[tberrys@charter.net](mailto:tberrys@charter.net)

**Area B2 Governor**

Jan Taylor  
[jan.taylor@wildhorseresort.com](mailto:jan.taylor@wildhorseresort.com)

**Area B3 Governor**

Steve Worden  
[steveworden13@yahoo.com](mailto:steveworden13@yahoo.com)

**Area B4 Governor**

Edwin Keeney  
[keeneagle@frontier.com](mailto:keeneagle@frontier.com)

**Division C Governor**

Jim Hills  
[jimhills.divc@yahoo.com](mailto:jimhills.divc@yahoo.com)

**Area C1 Governor**

Doug Greenlund  
[mgreenlund@aol.com](mailto:mgreenlund@aol.com)

**Area C2 Governor**

Dave Moore  
[realtim@earthlink.net](mailto:realtim@earthlink.net)

**Area C3 Governor**

Jason Hart  
[hartfam@wildblue.net](mailto:hartfam@wildblue.net)

**Area C4 Governor**

Linda Karalfa  
[lkkaralfa@msn.com](mailto:lkkaralfa@msn.com)

**Division D Governor**

Frank Briggs  
[bigbadfrank@msn.com](mailto:bigbadfrank@msn.com)

**Area D1 Governor**

Kim Mangels  
[kimma@selinc.com](mailto:kimma@selinc.com)

**Area D2 Governor**

Christine Meyer  
[christinemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:christinemeyer@gmail.com)

**Area D3 Governor**

Micki Harnois  
[mharnois@spokanevalley.org](mailto:mharnois@spokanevalley.org)

**Area D4 Governor**

Jennifer Henage  
[jihenage@NIC.EDU](mailto:jihenage@NIC.EDU)

**Washington and Oregon Governors Celebrate Toastmasters with Proclamations**



Recently, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee declared the week of Jan. 27 through Feb. 3, 2013, Toastmasters Week in Washington. Download the proclamation [here](#).

Oregon Gov. John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., proclaimed March 6 to 30, 2013, to be Toastmasters Month in Oregon, stating in the proclamation that he "encourages all Oregonians to join in this observance." Oregon clubs that would like to hold a special event to celebrate Toastmasters Month should contact District Governor [Nancy Shatto](#) to ask about funds for publicity. Download the proclamation [here](#).

**Spring Conference Planning Launches with Theme 'Speaking Up.... Reaching Out'**

By Conference  
 Publicity Chair  
 Patti Mann

The  
 Toastmasters  
 International  
 District 9 2013



**LGET Letter**

**The Second Most Important Person**

By Lieutenant Governor  
 Education and Training Jon Meyer



Spring  
Conference, set  
for May 31-June

1, offers education sessions and social events that will comprise a weekend of learning and fun, as captured in the conference theme, "Speaking Up.... Reaching Out."

The special event will be at the Best Western University Inn in Moscow in beautiful northern Idaho. Moscow is the home to the University of Idaho and the Appaloosa Horse Club. The city offers a museum and a vibrant downtown, including Idaho's longest-running Farmers Market.

The keynote speaker is Darren LaCroix, 2001 World Champion of Public Speaking. As a keynote speaker since 1994, Darren brings his incredible story to conferences around the world. He is consistently the top-rated speaker at conferences and is credited with changing the way people think about challenges, humor, and presentations. His clients include IBM, Fidelity Investments, and numerous associations. [Click here](#) for more information about Darren.

Full conference package is \$125; early-bird special until April 30 is \$110; first-timers pay only \$95 (hotel arrangements are separate). For ease in registration, you can [register online here](#).

Questions? Contact publicity chair [Patti Mann](#). You can also scroll down for more information.

## Briefly Speaking ...

■ **Video Testimonial Contest:** The District has established a YouTube channel in which clubs can submit 1-2 minute video testimonials about Toastmasters. A Toastmasters International gift certificate will be awarded to a random testimonial-participant club via a drawing at the spring conference. Links to the videos will appear on the District 9 Web site and Facebook group. Contact District PRO [Kathy Hansen](#) or District Webmaster [Amy Mayer](#) if you'd like to submit a video. See a similar [video contest from District 6](#).

■ **Success Idea of the Month:** Back in the [September 2012 newsletter](#), we noted Division D Governor Frank Briggs's High-Performance Leadership project in progress – a plan to hold a "mega-meeting" involving multiple clubs. Clubs in the Yakima area have provided a successful model of such a meeting with their recent Leadership Workshop. District Secretary Debra Kroon Yates reports:

"Last fall, with the announcement about Leadership Workshops coming up for January/February, I realized that this would be a great opportunity for our clubs in Yakima for a couple of reasons:

Toastmasters International says the most important person in Toastmasters is the individual member. If that's true, you might ask, "Is there a second most important person?" It turns out, according to Toastmasters, there is: the Area Governor.

Area  
Governors  
are the key  
to knitting  
our far-flung  
individual  
clubs into a



mutually supportive network of Toastmasters. They help us have clubs with unique character and heritage at the same time they share the culture and values of Toastmasters at large.

Have you ever traveled somewhere well away from your home and visited a club in that area. It can be a delightful experience. There is much that is familiar, enough to make you feel comfortable and nearly at home, but a few things that are different and interesting. Area Governors can play an important role in helping maintain this consistency while encouraging clubs to develop their own identity.

Area Governors can supply an outside eye to help your club recognize what it is doing well and areas in which it can improve. In effect, they serve their clubs as an evaluator, providing feedback clubs can use, or not, as they see fit. They also serve as conduits of information between their clubs and the district and can help connect clubs to District resources such as club coaches and resources that can help clubs grow and thrive.

Area Governors are also responsible for organizing area speech contests twice a year and they work with Division Governors to plan and conduct club-officer training.

For me, being an Area Governor was the most challenging and fun position I've held in Toastmasters. There was plenty of opportunity for growth coupled with the chance to get to know and work with

The majority of the clubs have small membership; we have a new Advanced Club that was formed last July. One of the intents of the Advanced Club was to be available to help with these types of leadership events.

"I suggested we take our February meeting [of the Advanced Club Audible Experience, which meets monthly], invite all clubs that wanted to participate, help out, and market their clubs to join us.

It was advertised as a one-day (two-hour) workshop. Our Toastmaster, Cathy Simon, arranged for four excellent, prepared presenters whose speeches/presentations would appeal to the community. All were given manual credit or used the event as a forum to present those longer required projects, such as those from the Better Speaker series. We also used the Competent Leader manual to ensure those members that were involved got their credit.

"District leadership got us coverage in the local paper and on the radio station. We had 15 guests attend. We had contact from others who were unable to attend. Overall, it was a great success. I recommend this method quite heartily."

You can see videos of presenters at the Yakima event in the [District 9 Facebook group](#) and as follows: [Bruce Noves](#); [Maureen Mould, Part I](#); [Maureen Mould, Part II](#); [Bill Breakey, Part I](#); [Bill Breakey, Part II](#); and [Louise Achey](#).

■ **Judge a Youth Speech and Debate Contest:** Help is needed for judging a speech and debate tournament in Post Falls Feb. 28-March 2. District 9 Gov. Nancy Shatto, who participated as a judge last year, says she "had a wonderful time and plan to do so again this year."

This tournament will provide competition for 150+ home-schooled high-school students from the Northwest in two styles of debate and 10 speech events.

Needed are 200+ community judges. Investment of time, as you provide feedback to these young speakers, is all that's needed.

More from Esther Paul, NCFCA Region II Coordinator: "As a thank-you, we provide our judges with complimentary meals and refreshments while they serve. Judging each round is a three-hour commitment that includes a brief judge orientation. You may judge as few as one round on one day, or as many as several rounds over all three days."

To sign yourself up, please go to the [Judges Registration section of the NCFCA website](#). From there, you'll select our region on a map, and can choose "Inland Northwest Qualifier." Then you can select your judge slots and receive an email confirmation. You'll receive another reminder a few days before the event.

Toastmasters beyond my local club. Being an Area Governor was also my first serious opportunity to learn about the world of Toastmasters in the District and beyond.

Over the next few weeks our current Area Governors and others will begin, if they haven't already, to recruit next year's Area Governors. If you're interested, please let them know. If you're approached, please seriously consider it. The Peace Corps may have trademarked the phrase, "The toughest job you'll ever love," but in Toastmasters the job and the challenge to take on and to love is being a great Area Governor. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Area Governor's role, as well as other District-officer roles.

#### **Jon Meyer**

District Lieutenant Governor  
Education and Training (LGET)

### **February Club Anniversaries**

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Happy anniversary to District clubs that were chartered in February:

- Lewis-Clark Toastmasters Club, Feb. 1, 1946, 67 years
  - Atomic City Club, Feb. 1, 1955, 58 years
  - Sun Country Club, Feb. 1, 1996, 17 years
- 

### **District Mission**

*The mission of this district is to enhance the quality and performance and extend the network of the member clubs of Toastmasters International within the boundaries of this district, thereby offering greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from the Toastmasters educational program by focusing on the critical success factors as*

The location of the tournament is: the River Church, 1687 Horsehaven Avenue, Post Falls, ID. If you have any questions, please contact Judge Coordinator [Jeannie Brown](#), phone 208-290-7340.

*specified by the district educational and membership goals, ensuring that each club effectively fulfills its responsibilities to its individual members, and providing effective training and leadership-development opportunities for club and district officers.*



## **Toastmasters International District 9**

### **2013 Spring Conference – May 31 - June 1**

The Toastmasters International District 9 2013 spring conference offers education sessions and social events for a weekend of learning and fun!

#### **Keynote Speaker: Darren LaCroix**

In 2001, [Darren LaCroix](#), the World Champion of Public Speaking, out-spoke 25,000 contestants from 14 countries to win that title. That was just a benchmark. Since that victory, Darren has traveled the world demystifying the process of creating a powerful speech. He has roused audiences in faraway places like Saudi Arabia, China, Oman, Malaysia, and Taiwan with his inspirational journey from first-rate chump to first-class champ, proving anything is possible if you are willing to work for it.

Darren may have been "born without a funny bone in his body," but he possessed the desire to learn and the willingness to fail necessary to achieve his dream. The self-proclaimed "student of comedy" is living proof that humor is a skill that can be learned.

As a keynote speaker since 1994, he brings his incredible story to conferences around the world. He is consistently the top-rated speaker at conferences. He changes the way people think about challenges, humor, and presentations... forever. His clients include IBM, Fidelity investments, and numerous associations too long to list!



## **Driving Information:**

# Pricing Information



Package Options ( <b>Best Value</b> )	Amount
Full Conference Package: Includes all individual conference sessions, meals, and Friday night social featuring appetizers and a theater mystery party*	\$125
Early Bird Promotion for registrations received by April 30, 2013	\$110
First Timer Conference Attendee Discount (Registration must be by April 30, 2013)	\$95

\*Ala Carte Pricing Available when registering online

Lodging Information: [Best Western Plus University Inn](#) • Mention the Toastmasters D9 Spring Conference.

## [Register Online Today!](#)

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