

The DISTRICT DIALOGUE



Volume 38, Issue 7

Serving Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska

January 2011

Pep Squad

Absolutely Good News!

Elinora Reynolds, DTM

On December 25, 2010, the Absolutely Articulate Toastmasters Club # 1272692 once again delivered joy and good cheer to 112 residents and staff at the Life Care Center of Aurora by Christmas caroling. Planned and coordinated by Absolutely Articulate Club co-sponsors Elinora Reynolds and Betty Funderburke, the following toastmasters (TM) and friends arrived at 10:00 am on Christmas morning and jubilantly walked the 1st and 2nd floors of the Life Care Center of Aurora:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Leroy Brown | Katey McEniry |
| Betty Funderburke (TM) | Elinora Reynolds (TM) |
| Dusty Hertzog | Annette Sills-Brown (TM) |
| Pam Hertzog (TM) | Nadine Stokes |
| Annie Howard (TM) | Brooke Stover (TM) |
| Jacob McEniry | |



Nadine Stokes, Annie Howard, Pam Hertzog, Dusty Hertzog, Brooke Stover, Annette Sills-Brown, Leroy Brown, Jacob McEniry, Katey McEniry
Photo By: Elinora Reynolds

As a new toastmasters club founded in January, 2009, this weekend morning club currently operates under the leadership of club officers Gil Antero, President; Annie Howard, VP-Education; Myra Penn, VP-Membership; Stephanie Lynn, VP-Public Relations; Vanessa Thomas-Jones, Secretary; Renee Franklin, Treasurer and Deborah

Riley, Sergeant at Arms. Absolutely Articulate Toastmaster meetings are held on every 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month at 10:00 am at the Life Care Center of Aurora, 14101 E. Evans Avenue in Aurora. The Absolutely Articulate Toastmasters Club is a community-based club that is open to the public. For more information about the Absolutely Articulate Toastmasters club, contact club leaders at backhometoast@yahoo.com or (303) 324-5927.

Special points of interest:

- Caroling
- Coaching class
- Mid-year progress
- Taking responsibility
- Promoting your club
- New club
- TLI schedule
- Candidates needed

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Don't forget TLI!

Play by Play — Calendar of Events

Jan 8	Toastmasters Leadership Institute – Denver, Red Rocks Com. College
Jan 13-15	Mid-Year Training, for Trio
Jan 22	Toastmasters Leadership Institute – Cheyenne
Jan 29	Toastmasters Leadership Institute – Fort Collins
Feb 1	Talk Up Toastmasters Membership Contest Begins (ends March 31)
Feb 5	Toastmasters Leadership Institute, Colorado Springs
Feb 19	Toastmasters Leadership Institute, Gillette
Feb 28	Last day to complete Club Officer Training

Player's Lineup

Club Coaching News – Denver TLI Club Coaching Seminar

By Betty Chavira, Club Coaching Chair

Great minds discuss ideas;
average minds discuss
events; small minds discuss
people.
Eleanor Roosevelt



When: Club Coach Training at Denver TLI on January 8, 2011
Where: Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood Colorado
Who: Current and former Club Coaches, officers and members of clubs with 12 or fewer members, Toastmasters working on the

leadership track towards DTM

You are invited to attend a training class, discussion group at Denver TLI. We will be discussing the following:

- Club Coaching program, brief overview
- How to get a coach for your struggling club
- How to work successfully with a club coach
- Hard-won lessons, advice, and strategies from current and former club coaches
- Why serve as a club coach? Leadership learning challenges and opportunities
- Tools for coaching success

If your club has 12 or fewer members, and is willing to work with 1 or 2 coaches, please contact me (bettychavira@msn.com). Many struggling clubs

could benefit from working with a coach to build membership and work on **SMART (Specific-Measurable-Actionable-Realistic-Timeframed)** goals in their journey towards Distinguished status. Why bother with striving for Distinguished club status? The Distinguished Club program is a valuable metric to measure success of your club in the following areas: (1) Are members setting and achieving communication and leadership goals? (2) Is your club attracting and sustaining membership in sufficient numbers to hold energetic meetings with all roles filled? (3) Is your club operating efficiently and maintaining communication with your Area/Division/District by submitting dues and officer lists on time? (4) Is your club knowledge base sustainable; i.e. are officers being trained? If 1 or 2 key members leave your club, would you have the 'corporate' knowledge to sustain the quality of your meetings and still operate efficiently? The Distinguished Club plan was crafted to provide SMART goals for your club's success.

Other news: The journey of District 26 **Club No. 1028217 Absolut Skaal Masters** to reach Distinguished status in FY2010 is recounted in *Club Coaching News* publication published by District 8. Coaches **Dawn Kirk** and **Elizabeth (Bette) Frick** worked with this club for 2-1/2 years. Access their story using the following link. <http://www.dist8tm.org/clubcoach.html>.



Coaches Corner

Half Time Pep Talk

by Julia Davis, DTM District Governor



Happy holidays to everyone in District 26. It is now "half time", that is, the Toastmasters year is half over. If you are expecting a slam-bang half time event, it's coming in January with the Toastmaster Leadership Institute (TLI) training sessions. Your education and leadership coach, Norm Frickey, has assured me

he has spared no expense on the upcoming TLI sessions to deliver the finest training programs we can offer you. Go to the district website and click on the desired session for details. Remember that you should plan on having at least four officers trained this session to qualify for the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) training credit, but more is always better. BTW, non-officers can attend officers training programs if they are interested, and it provides a good opportunity to get potential new officers trained early (although they officially have to be trained when they become officers to receive the training credit).

Are you ready? Are You Ready? I said, ARE YOU READY? Ready for what? To win the game, of course. Now that we are half way through we can see our strengths and our weaknesses so we can adjust our game plan accordingly. The district is down a few points at the half, but I know we can rally the team and win one for the members. Ask your club presidents if they are at charter strength (20 members) or more. Do they have a few DCP points stored up? Now is the time to consider any game plan changes. Toastmasters International is starting a new membership drive soon and this would be the perfect project for someone needing to organize and execute a membership drive for

their Competent Leadership program (project 6). Plan to recruit big then execute to the plan. If you need help, the district has many resources to help you including, Betty Chavira, the recruiting coach, and Gavin Kirton, the team publicist. They can give advice and counsel based on their years of experience in Toastmasters.

Next, is your team adequately compensated for their efforts? By this I mean, are they getting the recognition and awards they richly deserve for their outstanding accomplishments? If not, maybe it is time to have recognition party for them? Order them badges, make a big show at a meeting of presenting them their awards (Special Occasions Speech # 3, Presenting an award, and have them do Speech #4, Accepting an award if they are advanced members). Make sure the VP of Education turns in all awards promptly to TI (after they reopen January 3rd).

Finally, review your game plan and share your progress with the club by discussing your clubs Distinguished Club Program progress. Get their input on how to round out the year as a Presidents Distinguished Club, and I can tell you from experience it CAN be done with any club, providing the club members want to win. The DCP program is more than an award. It is the pulse of the club. If the club is following the program and achieving the goals, it is a healthy and thriving club both with the team and from the perspective of draftees who may want to join your club. Every club that achieves distinguished or better is a winning club, and I can assure you those clubs are sought by the draftees first. Shouldn't your club be one that is desired?

As always, I sit on the sidelines and welcome advice on how to manage the district for you, so please let me know what you like and what you think I need to address. Let's WIN!

It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan.
Eleanor Roosevelt

Never allow a person to tell you no who doesn't have the power to say yes.
Eleanor Roosevelt



Coaches Corner



Nobody Did What Anybody Could Have

Norm Frickey, DTM Lt. Governor Education & Training

ATTENTION CLUB OFFICERS. It's training time again for club officers, and we look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming Toastmasters Leadership Institutes. Remember in order for your club to receive DCP credit training must be accomplished by February 28, 2011.

Thanks for stepping up, becoming a club officer, and taking on a very important role in the life of your club. Here's a poem I read from time to time – something for all of us to ponder as we fulfill our responsibilities knowing what we are doing needs to be done and will result in our club(s) being stronger.

*There was a most important job that needed to be done,
And no reason not to do it, there was absolutely none.
But in vital matters such as this, the thing you have to ask
Is who exactly will it be who'll carry out the task?*

*Anybody could have told you that Everybody knew
That this was something Somebody would surely have to do.
Nobody was unwilling; Anybody had the ability.
But Nobody believed that it was their responsibility.*

*It seemed to be a job that Anybody could have done,
If Anybody thought he was supposed to be the one.
But since Everybody recognized that Anybody could,
Everybody took for granted that Somebody would.*

*But Nobody told Anybody that we are aware of,
That he would be in charge of seeing it was taken care of.
And Nobody took it on himself to follow through,
And do what Everybody thought that Somebody would do.*

*When what Everybody needed so did not get done at all,
Everybody was complaining that Somebody dropped the ball.
Anybody then could see it was an awful crying shame,
And Everybody looked around for Somebody to blame.*

*Somebody should have done the job
And Everybody should have,
But in the end Nobody did
What Anybody could have.*

– Charles Osgood

It is better to light a candle
than curse the darkness.
Eleanor Roosevelt

It is not fair to ask of others
what you are not willing to do
yourself.
Eleanor Roosevelt



Coaches Corner

Shameless Self-Promotion

Gavin Kirton, DTM Public Relations Officer

Shameless? Self-promotion? Do both of those words belong together? Yes, they do.

Shameless because we are proud of our Toastmasters heritage and programs. I believe we should be telling everyone we meet about Toastmasters. I tell check-out clerks at the grocery store they can get more confident talking to their customers through Toastmasters. I share my experiences with the wait staff at restaurants, telling them they could be making bigger tips and loyal customers through the art of persuasion which they can hone to finely tuned instrument at Toastmasters. Yes, I have even dropped Toastmasters at a few city council chambers and political events. Couldn't everyone benefit from attending a Toastmasters club? Why not yours?

Self-promotion is what we do in Toastmasters. We are eager to share our enthusiasm for the benefits we receive from our membership and our clubs, so why wouldn't we want to share that with our friends, co-workers, neighbors, and family members? I know I am always proud to invite someone I know to one of my meetings (and yes I attend meetings four nights a week). I want them to see what I am getting out of Toastmasters, the friends I am making, the strides I am making in my public speaking and leadership skills. Don't you feel the same way about your club?

Some clubs have asked about using paid advertising to garner new members for their clubs, and I ask them if they have been promoting their clubs through the free channels. Most say that they tried but it did not seem to pan out. I heartily disagree with them. Yes, it takes the right touch to establish a relationship with a newspaper editor or a radio station manager, but there are so many free opportunities to be exploited that most have not thought about trying.

How about looking up the local events calendar and seeing if there is an event coming up that your club could possibly help the promoter or presenters with our unique training and experience (and bring

your banner to the event)? Is your club even listed in the events calendar (this is often free, but you must renew it each month)? One example I am familiar with is the Lafayette Kids Park project, which brought together hundreds of local people and the members of Speak with Ease Toastmasters. The Speak with Ease Toastmasters #631413 helped participate in the one day park project to raise awareness of the need for play facilities for handicapped children. During the holiday, the Front Range College Communicators #1097218 collected and donated food to the local food bank so others in the area may eat better. Both of these things got the attention of the local news media and helped them get recognition – cost: ZERO dollars, benefits: PRICELESS.

I have suggested many times that clubs consider putting on a Speechcraft or a youth leadership program. Tri-Town Toasters #1112188 in Frederick is planning a Speechcraft in February and these programs are great ways of promoting Toastmasters benefits to the community and consequently bringing the mission of the club to the community. If you are looking for recognition, consider doing something for your community.

Alternatively, many clubs have chosen to join their local Chamber of Commerce. This is an inexpensive alternative to advertising but your club still has to cultivate the leads by attending chamber functions, so it is not free, but very lucrative. If your club can't afford membership, consider asking another local club to go in with you, in Longmont three clubs joined together to join the chamber and it has been a very beneficial experience for all the clubs.

If you need more ideas, please contact me so I can help you work out a program. You can reach me by e-mail at pro1011@d26leaders.org or by phone at (303) 828-2808 in the evenings or (303) 882-2912 during the day. I am ready to help you, all you have to do is ask.



We gain strength, and courage, and confidence by each experience in which we really stop to look fear in the face... we must do that which we think we cannot.
Eleanor Roosevelt



Pep Squad

New Advanced Club — Spirited Speakers

Randon Rocks President, Spirited Speakers



I once had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalogue: no good in a bed, but fine up against a wall.
Eleanor Roosevelt

"Congratulations, you've completed your What can Spirited Speakers do for you? Competent Communicator!"

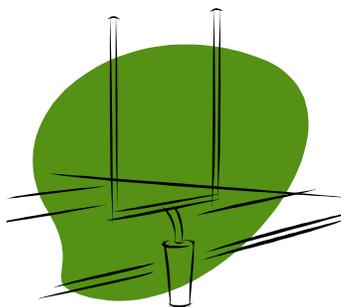
Would you like to take your speaking skills to the next level? Would you like to get more out of your evaluations? Would you like to become a better evaluator? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may be in need of joining an advanced club!

- We offer time for longer projects in the Advanced Manuals
- A professional camaraderie
- Detailed evaluations in a supportive spirit!

We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at Koelbel Library from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. Koelbel Library is located at 5955 South Holly Street, Littleton, CO 80121-3460, the intersection of Holly and Orchard.

If you are close to or have reached Competent Communicator status, come visit our new advanced club in the Denver Tech Center called Spirited Speakers! You can work on your advanced manuals in your home club, but if you have longer presentations for work or other organizations, you can count it as a speech AND get feedback from some of the top speakers in the district at Spirited Speakers.

For more information, please visit our website at www.spiritedspeaker.com or contact President Randon Rocks at randon_rocks@hotmail.com. We would love to have you!!!



Spirited Speakers is the newest advanced club in the Denver Metro area. It joins Evening Stars (eveningstarstm.freetoasthost.us) which meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening and Excelsior (excelsior.freetoasthost.ws) which meets the third Saturday morning. Which one is right for you? Check them out.

— G.S.S.

Coaches Corner

Upcoming Club Officer Training

Norm Frickey, DTM Lieutenant Governor Education & Training

The following email was sent to the officers in your club. In case they missed it, be sure to remind them to attend Toastmasters Leadership Institute. It's an essential part of their training for their offices.

Hello District 26 Club Officers and leaders.

Come one, Come all, to a Toastmaster Leadership Institutes near you. In addition to **club officer training** there is an opportunity to attend informative educational sessions and network with other Toastmasters. Best of all **it's free** to all Toastmasters.

Saturday January 8, 2011—Lakewood, Colorado

Red Rocks Community College
13300 West Sixth Avenue, Lakewood, CO
8:00 am to 1:00 pm
Program and Agenda Detail <http://www.d26toastmasters.org>
TLI coordinator Norm Frickey lget1011@d26leaders.org

Saturday, January 22, 2011—Cheyenne, Wyoming

Larimer County Community College
1400 E. College Drive, Cheyenne, WY
Program details to be announced soon
Agenda To be announced soon.
For more information contact
Bob Brown wyofriend@bresnan.net
Leah Bratton biznesbob@bresnan.net
Peggy Caldwell divn1011@d26leaders.org

Saturday, January 29, 2011—Fort Collins, Colorado

Timberline Church
2908 S Timberline Rd Fort Collins, CO
Program details to be announced soon
Agenda To be announced soon.
For more information contact Pat Upchurch patupchurch@hotmail.com

Saturday, February 5, 2011—Colorado Springs, Colorado

Colorado Springs
Location to be announced
Program details to be announced soon
Agenda To be announced soon.
For more information contact Niki Moore timeflies@q.com

Saturday, February 19, 2011—Gillette, Wyoming

Gillette, Wyoming
Location to be announced
Program details to be announced soon
Agenda To be announced soon.
For more information contact
Vicki Kissack n11011@d26leaders.org
Peggy Caldwell divn1011@d26leaders.org

Friendship with one's self is all important, because without it one cannot be friends with anyone else in the world.
Eleanor Roosevelt



Coaches Corner

2011 — 2012 District Officer Nominations

Alan Swartz, DTM Immediate Past District Governor

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.
Eleanor Roosevelt



Your District is seeking District Officer Nominations for the 2011 – 2012 Toastmasters year (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012). Elected officers are District Governor, Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training, and Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, and six Division Governors, Denver, Eastern, Foothills, Metro, Northern and Southern. To be placed on the ballot, you must be nominated. You may be nominated by someone else, but it's a perfectly acceptable practice to nominate yourself. Nominations must be mailed or emailed to Alan Swartz of the Nominating Committee by March 8th, 2011.

The nomination form and officer agreement along with the requirements and officer duties are on the District website: www.d26toastmasters.org. The election will be May 21, 2011. District Officer Candidates can also run from the floor as write-in candidates.

District leadership is a growth and leadership experience. If you haven't been a District leader, and even if you have been, thing about taking your Toastmasters experience to the next level. Become a District Officer.

Contact information:

Alan Swartz, DTM
14925 E. 50th Ave
Denver CO 80239
Telephone: 719-239-0269
nominations@d26toastmasters.org

Coaches' Tip

Planning a Toastmasters Event?

Norm Frickey, DTM D26 Lt. Governor Education and Training



Toastmasters International provides up to \$2 million in general liability insurance for all club and district events and meeting sites around the world. There is no cost to the club or district for the insurance. It is important, however, that your club follow Toastmasters International Policy and Procedures regarding the activities taking place. If World Headquarters determines that the event is not within Toastmaster International guidelines, the insurance request will be denied and the club or district will be notified.

If your club or district needs insurance coverage e-mail financequestions@toastmasters.org and provide them with the following information:

For events please provide:

- Name and date of event
- Name of the event location
- Address of the event location
- Contact person's name at the event location
- Phone and fax number of the contact person
- Contact person's e-mail

For meeting locations provide:

- Name of the meeting location
- Address of the meeting location
- Contact person at the meeting location
- Phone and fax number of the contact person
- Contact person's e-mail

Once the information is received, allow three to four business days for the location to receive the certificate via e-mail or fax.

(Source: <http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/OfficerResources/Liability-Insurance.aspx>)

Tail Gate – Musings from the Editor



Are You That Somebody?

Norm Frickey offered us a poem in this issue that reminds us that things don't happen unless Somebody takes responsibility to see that they do. Part of that is the individual. It's easy to fall into the trap of expecting another person to do the job. I know I'm guilty of it myself. And part of it is leadership. Your job — and my job — as a leader includes making sure that Somebody knows they are responsible.

In most Executive Committee (EC) meetings we discuss a multitude of ideas, and we agree that some of them are solid enough that Somebody needs to follow up. Yet all too often we leave without anyone signing up to handle them. Much of the time when the next EC meeting rolls around, nothing has been done about these good ideas. Obviously, Somebody should have stepped up to take responsibility to follow up on the idea, or Somebody should have exercised their leadership skills to assign the task to a willing volunteer. But aren't we all Somebody?

The Club Success Plan has a column labeled Assignment. It lists who normally has responsibility for the Distinguished Club Program requirements. All we have to do is get together and make sure that Somebody takes responsibility for the requirements, sets target dates, and monitors progress. A piece of cake, and participating in the planning is one of the requirements for Advanced Leader Bronze.

So why don't we do it? Simple, Somebody, typically the president, has to take responsibility for getting everyone together to work out the plan, but for a number of reasons that doesn't always happen. Now what? How about Somebody reminding them. Are you that Somebody? Am I?

In and out of Toastmasters we are continually faced with that question: am I that Somebody? If we ignore it, perhaps another Somebody will step up. Maybe, but don't count on it. The only way we make progress is to take action. Somebody has to take that action. Are you that Somebody?

A man goes into a bar with his dog. He goes up to the bar and asks for a drink.

The bartender says "You can't bring that dog in here!" The guy, without missing a beat, says "This is my seeing-eye dog."

"Oh man," the bartender says, "I'm sorry, here, the first one's on me." The man takes his drink and goes to a table near the door.

Another guy walks into the bar with a Chihuahua. The first guy sees him, stops him and says "You can't bring that dog in here unless you tell him it's a seeing-eye dog."

The second man graciously thanks the first man and continues to the bar. He asks for a drink. The bartender says "Hey, you can't bring that dog in here!"

The second man replies "This is my seeing-eye dog." The bartender says, "No, I don't think so. They do not have Chihuahuas as seeing-eye dogs."

The man pauses for a half-second and replies "What??! They gave me a Chihuahua??!"

<http://www.cleanjoke.com/humor/No-Dogs-Allowed.html>

When NASA first started sending up astronauts, they quickly discovered that ball-point pens would not work in zero gravity.



To combat this problem, NASA scientists spent a decade and \$12 billion developing a pen that writes in zero gravity, upside down, underwater, on almost any surface including glass and at temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 300° C.

The Russians use a pencil.

<http://www.cleanjoke.com/humor/Your-Tax-Dollars.html>

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

DISTRICT 26

The DISTRICT DIALOGUE



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We're on the web!
www.d26toastmasters.org/d26cms/

The Values of Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International's core values are integrity, dedication to excellence, service to the member, and respect for the individual.

The Vision of Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International empowers people to achieve their full potential and realize their dreams. Through our member clubs, people throughout the world can improve their communication and leadership skills, and find the courage to change.

The Mission of Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International is the leading movement devoted to making effective oral communication a worldwide reality.

Through its member Clubs, Toastmasters International helps men and women learn the arts of speaking, listening and thinking – vital skills that promote self-actualization, enhance leadership, foster human understanding, and contribute to the betterment of mankind.

It is basic to this mission that Toastmasters International continually expand its worldwide network of Clubs, thereby offering ever-greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from its programs.

The Mission of the District

The mission of the District is to enhance the performance and extend the network of Clubs, thereby offering greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from the Toastmasters educational program.

Toastmasters Leadership Institute

Toastmasters Leadership Institute isn't limited to just club leaders. Besides officer training there are sessions in skills you need to be a better speaker and leader and in useful life skills. You also get to make new friends by interacting with members from other clubs. And chances are you'll find an idea or two that you can "borrow" to take back to your club.

It starts in January. **Plan to attend!**