



DISTRICT 26 DIALOGUE

Serving Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska

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SPRING CONFERENCE WAS THE PLACE TO BEE

Yvonne C. Bryant, President, Summit Toastmasters



Table Topics_ L to R: Belinda, Rich, Tyler, Michael, Caleb (1st Place), Datta, and Mark (Toastmaster)

Photos by Tom Hobbs

Karma was in the air as all of the speakers had words of wisdom applicable to our everyday home and work lives.

The presentations began with [Dana LaMon, DTM](#) presenting his keynote speech "Take a Chance: It's the Way You Grow" on Friday evening.

Saturday morning opened with the inspiring journey of Toastmasters Region 1 international director [Emmy Hager, DTM](#). Ms. Hager described her life in a monastery in which the nuns took vows of silence. As she noted, Toastmasters is the antithesis of life in a monastery! After leaving the monastery, she embarked upon the journey of finding her voice again and being able to lead when the need called.

The weekend proceeded with the Table Topics Speech Contest, International Speech Contest, and education ses-

sions.

[Rod Smith](#), former Broncos wide receiver, was awarded the Toastmasters District 26 Communication and Leadership Award for his charitable contributions and community leadership.

Table Topics Contestants:

- Caleb Wilkins (1st Place)
- Rich Hopkins (2nd Place)
- Datta Groover (3rd Place)
- Michael Pearson
- Tyler Hart
- Belinda Corleyturnipseed

International Speech Contestants:

- [Rich Hopkins](#) (1st Place)
- Paula Cowen (2nd Place)
- Stephen Doherty (3rd Place)
- Joan Janis
- Chuck Maher
- Thomas Judson

Conference isn't all fun and games. Club presidents and vice presidents

of education met with the district officers to elect the 2011-2012 officers, approve the budget audit report, and vote on the redistricting measures.

[Summit Toastmasters](#) is in the Foothills Division which had significant changes this upcoming year. After MUCH discussion, a voice vote, a call for a ballot vote, and a call for a judgment on the vote, we amended and approved the realignment.

We were also treated to meeting the three candidates for F1 international director, which will be voted on at the upcoming Toastmasters International Conference this August in Las Vegas. Candidates are:

- John Barnes
- Randy Penn
- James Sultan

Overall, it was a great weekend! Good luck to Rich Hopkins as he represents District 26 at the [International Speech Contest in Vegas!](#)



International Speech Contest contestants. Left to right: Chuck Maher, Joan Janis, Rich Hopkins (1st Place), Paula Cowen (2nd), Steve Doherty (3rd), Tom Judson.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **JUN 30_** Distinguished district, division, area, and club programs end.
- **JUN 30_** Club officer list due to TI.
- **JUN 30_** Beat the Clock membership drive begins.
- **JUN 30_** Last day of Toastmasters year.

Enjoy the break for it won't last long. July 1st begins the new Toastmasters year. ☺

[Calendar details](#)

June 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

TWO-MINUTE WARNING

Julia Davis, DTM, District 26 Governor



It has come down to the last two-minutes, figuratively, in my term as your district governor. Our team is well positioned on the field to win the game. Now is the time to pull out the stops and carry the ball into the end zone for the win. You have all scored incredible goals during this year, but we need to finish the game.

If your club has not reached Distinguished Club status yet, please keep pushing your members to achieve their goals by the end of the year. Ask your club officers what you can do to help make the club Distinguished. If you have educational awards that have not been submitted, please get them in by June 30th to receive credit for this this year.

If your membership is a little low, invite a friend or co-worker to a meeting and show them what they can do to become members. Remember that although your club may have earned at least five Distinguished Club goals, it still takes 20 members or a net gain of five members since July 1st to complete the requirements.

Area governors, are you encouraging your clubs to participate in the Distinguished Club Program? Have you completed your club visits? You have carried the ball a considerable distance since we began 11 months ago. We need to do whatever it

takes to help the clubs succeed. If there is anything you need from the district leadership, we are here to help you. Call on your division governor for assistance or public relations office for ideas.

Division governors, are you supporting your area governors? Help them any way you can. They will appreciate any help you can offer to assist them in reaching their goals. Encouragement is the most powerful tool I know of to help push a team over the line. Praise the efforts of any area governor or club that achieves a goal. Help them celebrate that achievement.

My team stands ready to help you – just call on us and we will help you pull off the winning play. I look forward to the win for all of you.

Thank you for the great game. It has been fun and challenging at times, but I consider it a game well played. ▪

WELCOME DISTRICT LEADERS 2011-2012

New Slate of Officers

New district officers were inducted at the spring conference on May 21, 2011. July 1st begins the Toastmaster year when those listed to the right will officially take office.

There are still a few openings for area governors. If you're interested in serving, contact Norm Frickey at 720-219-1454 or E-mail jget1011@d26leaders.

This is a great opportunity to meet new people, observe the different club cultures, and advance your leadership skills.

DISTRICT 26 GOVERNOR

Norm Frickey, DTM

LT. GOVERNOR EDUCATION & TRAINING

Bea Macliz, ACG

LT. GOVERNOR MARKETING

Tom Hobbs, DTM

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Carol A. Harris, ACB

SECRETARY

Connie Akins

TREASURER

Gus Ray

AREA GOVERNORS-to be announced

DIVISION GOVERNORS

Denver

Glenn Conrad

Eastern

Gayle Perron-Krawetz

Foothills

Ed Morgan

Metro

Elaine Love

Northern

Janice Haldi

Southern

Thomas McKenna



EXCELSIOR ADVANCED CLUB

If you're looking for something "extra" in a Toastmasters club, check out Excelsior, an advanced Toastmasters club. One of this club's strengths is that they do round robin evaluations for each speaker in addition to the formal 2-3 minute individual evaluation.

Excelsior meets once a month (usually on the 3rd Saturday), at Lutheran Church of the Master, NE corner Jewell Avenue and West Alameda Pkwy, 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Go to excelsior.freetoasthost.ws.

WANTED

*Joke master or
Cartoonist_*

Are you noted for having a great sense of humor?

The *District Dialogue* is seeking an official joke master to re-search for brief jokes /one-liners /cartoons that we can use in the monthly issues.

Do you like to doodle? Original cartoons relevant to Toastmasters or communications would be *most welcome!*

Contact gordonsavage@msn.com.



QUALITY DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN

Timing is Everything

We have received many requests for shorter articles (150-400 words) in *The Dialogue* and positive feedback to our response. To ensure publication of your submission remember that *"it takes a long time to write a short letter."*

Please craft your article as you would a speech; clear, crisp, and concise.

- Organize your thoughts in a logical flow and be sure your purpose is clearly stated.
- Keep title short (4-7 words) and enticing. It can be descriptive or teasing.
- Solicit feedback from others *before* you send it to the editor because in most cases, the article will be published as written.
- Be aware that what goes on the web, stays on the web. Make yourself and the district proud by presenting your best.
- Write for your audience and be respectful of their views.

Submit your article on time.

Construction of the newsletter requires a team who contribute various skills. We

post *The Dialogue* on the first of every month and the team begins laying out the next issue on the second day of the month. By the 20th, we have a comprehensive draft. The next week is spent fact checking, refining the layout, and proofreading.

If we have to shift 'n shuffle to accommodate a submission beyond the 20th, or hold the presses for a very last-minute article, it impacts the quality. Revision, layout, and proofreading done while someone is standing there waiting for the end product is counter-productive.

The editor needs at least 48-hours to address the technical aspects of posting to the web. If he doesn't have that, he has no chance of meeting the deadline.

Remember that we are striving to create a benchmark, so help us to highlight YOUR skills, talents, and achievements in a professional format_

- Be brief
- Be interesting/informative
- Be on time

~cah

SPRING CONFERENCE THROUGH THE CAMERA LENS

Relive the Experience

[*Click to view more in our photo gallery*](#)



Dana LaMon, DTM, keynote speaker and 1992 World Champion of Public Speaking

Xilinx receives D26 corporate award



Clowning Around (Lori Bennett)



Emmy Hager, DTM, Region 1 international director and speaker



District governor, Julia Davis, DTM, and D6 area governor, Darryle Brown. "I dub thee, Sir Darryle,"



Norm Frickey, DTM, district governor-elect receives gavel.



Rod Smith, former Denver Bronco, receives D26 Communication & Leadership Award



The Distinguished Toastmasters line



Julia Davis poses with Mohan Devarajulu, DTM

THE CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE (TOASTMASTERS)

Gavin Kirton, DTM, Public Relations Officer

When I was asked to visit a Youth Leadership Celebration on April 29, I jumped at the opportunity. I love seeing children expressing themselves with confidence.

I expected a speech or two and a mock meeting to demonstrate the skills they learned in the short eight-week program. I could not have been more surprised to experience an audio/visual extravaganza put on by students in the 6th through 8th grade. They knocked my socks off! There were three 6th graders, four 7th graders, and four 8th graders putting on a show that would have rivaled Broadway stage plays.

Julia Davis explained that this has been a work of great love by the instructor, Kim Johnson, who started the program three years ago with Julia's help.



Kim combined the Toastmasters Youth Leadership program with her knowledge of college level communication skills and developed a 12-month after-school program. With the support of the school's administrator, Kim invited the first-year students to continue into the second year, as well as drafted new students to join the program.

When Kim moved out of state at the end of the second year, Donna Hammond stepped up to handle the logistics of a distance learning environment and work with the students through the third year. Donna arranged for Kim to be Skype'd into the classroom so the students could interact with her.

This celebration was the culmination of three years work by the students and faculty at Imagine Charter School in Firestone.

The show featured speeches including "The Gettysburg Address" presented by third-year student Andrew Stoops, "It's Easier to Change a Life Than You Might Think" presented by second-year student Maddie Carlock and "Hunting" (a comical view of a popular Colorado sport) by third-year student Jacob Seitz. Shiloh Riley and Lexi Whitmer showcased their original poetry. There were table topics, ad-lib comic



routines, and a comedic version of "Sleeping Beauty" titled "Slurping Beauty" presented by the whole team. It was a marvelous evening complete with awards.

Each student received a certificate from Julia Davis acknowledging their participation and completion of the Youth Leadership program. Kim Johnson flew in to observe the show first-hand and the students honored both her and Donna Hammond for their dedication to the program.

If you have never participated in a Youth Leadership program, I urge you to get involved; they are rewarding and fun. It is true that the children are our future and these shining stars will likely become Toastmasters when they come of age because the experience was so life changing for them. ■

ON-THE-JOB TOASTMASTERS OPPORTUNITIES

Carol A. Harris, ACB

Does your employment require that you give public presentations? Do you work in recruiting or human resources where interpersonal communication skills are vital?

How good are you at sales, marketing, or advertising? Customer service, telemarketing, and collections can be particularly challenging.

Toastmasters manual speeches enable you to train on-the-job. The skills you acquire can reduce the stress of job performance and elevate you above your peers.

Review the list to the right and determine which of the many projects would benefit you most and then present to your club. You can work from multiple manuals simultaneously, so seize every opportunity.



Photo from [Legal Advice Firm](#) / Google images

Learn and earn through better communication and leadership skills.

Competent Communicator

- #3-Get to the Point
- #4-How to Say it
- #8-Get Comfortable With Visual Aids
- #9-Persuade With Power
- #10-Inspire Your Audience

Specialty Speeches

Impromptu Talks; Sell a Product

Public Relations

Preparing speeches that will sway your audience to whatever you're promoting.

The Professional Speaker

Speaking as a Company Representative

Persuasive Speaking

Making Cold-Calls

Speaking to Inform

Interpersonal Communications

and more...

TOASTMASTERS PROVIDES UNEXPECTED BENEFIT

Dave Thyfault, Thunderbolt Orators



Long before Toastmasters, a man named Dave was asked to give a eulogy for a family member. It was well received and led to several more requests. On March 3, 2011 it hap-

pened again; only this time things were different.

Albert was Dave's 93 year-old stepfather and the patriarch of the family. Everybody, including Dave, loved Albert. Albert was a kind man, filled with tolerance, generosity, integrity and compassion. As Dave would say, "Albert built bridges, not fences. Without even trying, he made me a better man."

Albert also had a delightful sense of humor and he attracted all sorts of oddballs. You didn't have to be "normal" to be welcomed at Albert's table, which was one of the many blessings of being included in his

circle.

So how does one pay the appropriate tribute to such an important family leader? Fortunately, Dave had joined [Thunderbolt Orators](#) 18-months prior to Albert's passing. Dave had learned the finer points about communicating with an audience. He learned how to connect with listeners through

- well-chosen words
- eye contact
- body language
- facial expressions
- effective pauses

He knew the importance of smooth transitions. He knew how to vary the pace and the volume. He understood how to avoid distracting obstacles like fear, lecterns, and notes. He even learned how to give a humorous speech.

When Dave addressed the sympathetic attendees, he "took over" the room, nowhere near the microphone; he didn't need it. He reached right out and grabbed their attention and they knew he wasn't going to let go. By the time the ten-minute eulogy was completed, Dave had moved around the room and connected with the

audience members from several different perspectives. Dave knew how they felt and they were able to reconnect with Albert through Dave's stories.

Before Dave took his seat he had the audience standing up and applauding for Albert's fine character, as well as laughing out loud through their tear-filled faces. They were all of one spirit and admired Albert more than ever. The eulogy was a wonderful experience for all of them.

As you undoubtedly have guessed, I am that Dave.

If I never learn one more lesson, have one more pleasant moment; if I never meet one more nice person; if I never get another single solitary thing out of Toastmasters, it was worth every second of my journey with the gang at District 26, and especially my club, Thunderbolt Orators.

I owe you all a profound indebtedness for helping me to prepare for such an important event. Your kind words, nudges and observations at our gatherings made me a better speaker when it mattered most.

REACHING OUT – CHEYENNE CLUBS AND HOBBIES DAY

Lori Klassen, VP of Public Relations, High Noon

Approximately 30 clubs in Cheyenne participated in a hobby meet where clubs and organizations of all types were represented. This was an opportunity for clubs to recruit from a large spectrum of potential members. Comunicadores de Cheyenne Toastmasters, [High Noon](#), [High Plains](#), [Cheyenne](#), and [Roadmasters](#) showcased to the community what Toastmasters has to offer.

Many visitors stopped by the booth sponsored by the Cheyenne area Toastmasters

clubs, and handouts were provided that shared information on each club. George Hazzard, area governor, and Lori Klassen, High Noon VP public relations, each gave a two-minute speech.

In their speeches, they encouraged everyone, especially the non-Toastmasters club officers, to join Toastmasters to help them become better leaders and communicators in their own organizations. ■



IN MEMORY OF EARLY BIRD TOASTMASTERS CHARTER MEMBER

Katrina Jameson, Early Bird Toastmasters, Durango, Colorado

Early Bird Toastmasters charter member, **Robert Lucas Beers**, passed away on March 27, 2011 at the age of 96. He was an active club member for 58 years. District 26 expresses our deepest sympathy to the family and regrets the loss of such an amazing man. Read the [Durango Herald](#) article to learn more about Robert's incredible zest for life. ■

I CONCEDE... NOT SO FAST

Bradley Beck, DTM, Liberty Toastmasters, Erie Expressors, Chamber Ad Laborators

"I concede." These were the only words I could think of, no longer able to continue my speech at a division contest. I had made this presentation many times. I had won my club and area contests. I had drawn the sixth speaking position out of six speakers. My competition was awesome, yet I knew I had a great speech.

The Toastmaster called my name. I felt a rush of excitement and shook her hand as I walked to the front of the room. I paused ...and began my speech. It was going well. I could see the smiles of friendly faces and felt the good vibe in the room. And then for no explainable reason, I lost my train of thought. I paused and for a second, remembered where I was and then continued on. I had a good recovery.

And then BAM!!!!. My mind went absolutely blank. I paused again. I looked at the audience. I walked across the stage and the words I knew so well escaped me. I could not think of anything to say.

I know I was in control of all my other faculties. My breathing was good. I felt fine. My

mind just stopped working. Wow! I was like a blank slate. A longer pause... the only thing I could do was to acknowledge and accept I could not go on any farther. I sat down. Only in a Toastmasters contest would one be graciously given a round of applause for lack of performance.

This event reminded me of Forrest Gump running with his followers, when a bumper sticker salesman runs alongside Forrest and points out that he has just stepped in a pile of dog stuff. Forrest replies, "It happens...sometimes". The man is then inspired to create the "Common Substance Happens" bumper sticker. Sometimes forgetting your speech does happen, even to the most practiced and confident of



speakers.

Like Forrest, I felt like running, yet I could not. My run for this time had stopped. However, like the bumper sticker salesman I was inspired. Inspired to come back to compete again. At the end of the competition all the speakers were interviewed by the Toastmaster. I was asked my club name, but before the Toastmaster could continue with her next question, I interrupted and asked the audience a question. "Do you think there is Viagra for public speaking? I sure would like to speak longer next time." The audience laughed and I made light of the situation.

On the drive home it was quiet. I started to recite my speech. It came out perfectly. Darn, I wish I could have remembered it for the contest. It was a good speech. Well, there's always next year. ■

In the interest of space, the editor reluctantly asked Brad to reduce his original article by almost 50%. Brad graciously complied with the request stating, "Thanks for challenging me," and is now perfecting the skill of writing as we speak; clear, crisp, and concise.

Lessons- 1) It's amazing what you can get by simply asking and 2) we grow by accepting challenges.

SOUTH SUBURBAN TOASTMASTERS

Inspires Club Adoption Program__Betty Chavira, Club Coach Chair

Caring and ambitious members of [South Suburban Toastmasters](#) epitomize the spirit of the organization as they contribute to the success of struggling clubs.

Southridge Toastmasters is a coach-eligible club in need of a boost. Paul Chamberlin and Jim Davis attended their meeting as a speaker/evaluator team. Other South Suburban members who have participated include Sharon Hoery, Helen Raleigh, and Leisha Harrison. [Southridge](#) meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday at 7 PM in the Southridge Rec Center at Highlands Ranch. All interested parties are welcome.

[Triskelion](#) Toastmasters club has two coaches. One of them is Kari Moore, a member of South Suburban Toastmasters. Kari joined Triskelion, has given speeches, and taken on Toastmaster and evaluator roles.

She participates in executive committee meetings and has developed a Distinguished Club plan with the officers and members. As coach, she provides some great advice on how they might improve their meeting format and market their club to guests and new members.

Sharon Hoery, of South Suburban, became a dual club member and was the Triskelion International Speech Contest winner. She took first place at the M2 area contest and appeared in the recent Metro Division Contest as Triskelion's representative.

Word of the helping hand offered by the members of South Suburban has spread like a Colorado wildfire and inspired a new "Adopt-a-Club Program." District leaders are excited and the emails are flying! Tom Hobbs, Betty Chavira, and Connie Akins are actively developing promotional ideas and means of formal recognition for clubs that participate.

The "Adopt-a-Club Program" is a way for strong clubs to assist the weak while providing mutual benefits. This complements, not substitutes, for a club coach. Look for a follow-up in the July Dialogue as leaders develop details. ■



SUMMIT TOASTMASTER SPEAKS AT PAGEANT

Yvonne C. Bryant, President, Summit Toastmasters

Amy Nakos of the [Summit Toastmasters](#) in Frisco, Colorado was the luncheon speaker for the Mrs. Colorado Pageant on March 4, 2011. The title of her speech was "Honoring Your Inner Queen."

She discussed three steps for honoring your true self:

1. Take Responsibility for Your Joy Now
2. Gauge Your Emotional Barometer
3. Make the Change

Amy's speech stressed the importance of connecting to your inner spirit, i.e. your "inner queen," as you make decisions about how to live your daily life. Taking responsibility for your emotions and tracking them are good ways to determine whether the activities, people, and events in your life are honoring what is best for you. When it is time to make a change,

Nakos discussed how to remove limiting mental barriers stopping people from success. Limiting mental barriers are beliefs held by people that hinder their success by causing unnecessary anxiety and stress.

Forty-six contestants and seven former Mrs. Colorado titleholders were in attendance. Nakos previously competed in the Mrs. Colorado Pageant in 2007, 2008 and 2009. She received the Most Photogenic award, and finished as a top ten semi-finalist.

Amy Nakos is the owner and creator of Mind Redesign. Through her company she works with individuals and groups to identify and change mental blocks stopping them from success. Her seminars include topics such as weight loss, improving performance in competition, and manifesting financial abundance. ■

She speaks to groups about the value of connecting to your true self and living out your purpose.



Amy and her pal Chester. Summit Daily News/Mark Fox

Read the entire article in the [Summit Daily News](#).

THEY'RE STILL BUZZING



About the spring conference

Reports are still being compiled and early indications are looking impressive. Bidding at the Silent Auction was competitive and some paid more than their bid when they picked up their item. The book store attracted a steady stream of toastmasters and produced another banner year for \$ales! Thanks to our many sponsors to include those noted below.

MoneyGram

Two Moms in the Raw

Byron Embry/Closing Remarks

Scott Lines Fine Art

Thunderbolt Orators #2242

Gavin Kirton, DTM

Village Roaster

Hugh Curley, DTM

Jeanne Swanson-Lia Sophia Independent Consultant

Nicole Slack-Tastefully Simple Independent Consultant

John Beachem-Beachem Books

U.S. Toy

Edwards Tobacco Shop

Untabo Photography

Rocky Mountain Red Cross

Starbucks

We had an effective conference committee (listed in program) and everyone deserves kudos for their performance. There are a few who demonstrated notable *creativity* that further enhanced the event.

- Linda Rhea, D5 area governor and conference chairperson, who conceived the conference theme "bee all that you can bee."
- Tom Hobbs, Denver division governor, whose infectious enthusiasm (and poetry) had everyone buzzing.
- Amy Krug, M4 area governor, who solicited sponsors and auction donations, as well as set up the auction display with little to no assistance.
- Niki Moore, Southern division governor and book store manager, for categorically displaying the educational materials in a logical flow that guided toastmasters through the journey to DTM.
- Gavin Kirton, public relations officer, for arranging to have Rod Smith (and his coffee) at the conference.

ALL ABOARD!

D26 Members sign up

◆ A hearty welcome to Jonathan Sterner of Sure Speaker Society. The newest member of our web team, Jonathan will play a leading, hands-on role in the development of the district web site.

◆ Alex Pyle, E3 area governor has signed on as an administrator to guide us through the process. Working side-by-side, these TMs will bring exciting new features and capabilities to our redesigned web site.

◆ David Lampe remains a reliable source for posting updates.

◆ Joseph Esler saved us from drowning when our web site was hacked a few years ago. Maintaining our life support has been demanding and exhaustive. Joseph would like to take a break and we offer our sincere appreciation for all he has done.



◆ Adam Woods-McCormick remains a technical web consultant for District 26, while Julia Davis and Carol Harris will continue to guide the design.

◆ Do you have time or talent to contribute? Contact webteam@d26leaders.org.

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Tom Hobbs, DTM, Denver Division Governor



M3 area governor, Pam Gasparini (in white sweater) and Denver division governor, Tom Hobbs, present certificate of recognition to club members.

South Suburban Toastmasters #1399 recently celebrated their 35th anniversary. A club since April, 1976, this group has produced several area governors, professional speakers and thousands of smiles. The club meets on Thursdays at 7:00 AM at the Country Buffet, 8100 W Crestline Blvd near Southwest Plaza Mall in Littleton.

Their word for this special day was "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" !!

Thrill Speakers Toastmasters #871 recently celebrated its 40th anniversary. Chartering in April 1971 under the name of Statesman Toastmasters with mostly Colorado state employees, this club has evolved over the years. To better fit their club personality, the name was changed to Thrill Speakers by a committee whose chairperson enjoyed skydiving. They continue to find thrills and challenge as each member strives to grow in an exciting and safe environment.

The club meets at 1801 California St. in downtown Denver at noon on Fridays.



Left to right: Meghan Hughes, Glen Jameson, Dene Clark, Glenn Conrad (D1 area governor), Matthew Argyle (club president), and Tom Hobbs, Denver division governor.

TOASTMASTERS FLOCK TO LAS VEGAS

Will you be there?

The Toastmasters International Convention held at Bally's Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, Aug. 17-20, 2011, promises to be an exciting event. Toastmasters membership is not a requirement for attendance so bring a friend or companion to share a fantastic experience featuring inspiring speakers, learning opportunities and more.

This is a great chance to mingle with people from all over the world. This spectacular event will last only a few days in August. The benefits, however, will last a lifetime.

District 26 will be represented in the International Speech Contest by Rich Hopkins, who has been there before. On August 26, 2006, Rich took 3rd Place in the Toastmasters World Champion of Public Speaking. He's going back for another shot at the top honor.

Those who heard him speak at the district conference will recall the line, "That's how you checkmate Daddy," which resonated with every father in the room. ■

Good Luck Rich!

SOWING SEEDS THROUGH TOASTMASTERS

Carol A. Harris, ACB, District Secretary



Katie (top left), Ian, Aliah, Jewell, Quincy (center), Destiny (in red)

Ian Humphrey of Simply Speaking Toastmasters is well-known for representing District 26 in the final round of the World Champion of Public Speaking 2010.

Ian is not the only competitive high-achiever in his family however. Ian's 12 year-old daughter, Jewell, was recently nominated to represent her school for the Aurora Scholars Program.

Sponsored by the Aurora City Council, the program is designed to recognize students who contribute to the life and community of their respective school. These are the students who go above and beyond whatever they do best.

A sixth-grader at Challenge School, Jewell received a "key", an Aurora Scholars Certificate, and a Congressional Certificate of Special Recognition from Ed Perlmutter, 7th congressional district congressman.

While Ian's focus is motivational speaking, Jewell has had a story published in a book titled, Making the World a Better Place, which is available for purchase on Amazon.

"The Children Are Our Future" (p.5) is true and what better place to train our future leaders than through our participation in Toastmasters? Good parenting means leading by example. ■

"One thing we have enjoyed in our family is working hard with each other, which means as a family we celebrate each recognition together.

Ian sets the bar high and our children continue to strive for excellence in all they do. It is our philosophy that we can't just expect great things from our children if we ourselves are not seeking it.

The transformation that has taken place in Ian through Toastmasters is evident and we believe is sowing seeds in our children."

Katie Humphrey

Tackle Your Dreams

Publisher / Governor

Julia K. Davis, DTM,
Home: 303-833-0567
Cell: 303-775-1106

Email: dg1011@d26leaders.org

Editor

Gordon S. Savage, DTM
36923 Forest Trail
Elizabeth, CO 80107-8126

Phone: 303-646-0547

Email: gordonsavage@msn.com

Layout & design

Contributing Editor

Carol A. Harris, ACB

Email: sec1011@d26leaders.org

Public Relations Officer

Gavin Kirton, DTM

Email: pro1011@d26leaders.org

ABOUT TOASTMASTERS DISTRICT 26, REGION 1



District 26 includes Colorado, the Eastern Slope of Wyoming, and the Nebraska panhandle. It was formed in 1948, with Gordon Merrick serving as its first district governor.

Four past district 26 governors have risen to the international level:

Don Paape was international director, 1966 - 68 and international president 1972 -73. It was during his term that women were first admitted to Toastmasters International. Watt Pye was district governor from 1969-70 and international director from 1970 -72; Dorothy Chapman served as district governor, 1989-90 and international president from 1990-92; and Beth Boaz was D26 governor from 1995-96 and international director, 1997-99. Marilyn Boland served as the first female District 26 governor in 1975 -76.

In 2000, [Ed Tate](#), a member of Cherry Creek Toastmasters, won the World Championship of Public Speaking. Ed is now the principal of a professional development firm that provides keynote and endnote presentations, workshops, and other training.

In 2007, [Rory Vaden](#), also a member of Cherry Creek Toastmasters, was the first runner-up in the World Championship of Public Speaking. He has since co-founded a multi-million dollar public training company and been featured on Oprah Radio with Dr. Oz and in SUCCESS™ Magazine.

[Byron Embry](#) of Pikes Peak Toastmasters was a major league baseball pitcher before he became a finalist in the World Championship of Public Speaking in 2009. He later founded Closing Remarks and has become a keynote speaker and author. [Ian J. Humphrey](#) of Simply Speaking was in Toastmasters little more than a year when he progressed to the final round of the World Championship of Public Speaking in 2010. Ian is now an inspirational speaker who reaches out to youth at risk.

Peter Coors joined a Toastmasters club at the Coors Brewing Company early in his career to gain the skills and confidence needed to appear as the spokesman for a series of national TV commercials. ■

VISIT US at
www.d26toastmasters.org



Our Mission

We strive to create a bond among all the clubs of the district by sharing our experiences, resources, and knowledge through an interactive media.

Our goal is to make every toastmaster feel empowered, appreciated, and connected.

Please send your questions, tips, comments, and articles to the editor, gordonsavage@msn.com, by the 15th of each month in order to appear in the next issue. Visit the [web site](#) for submission guidelines. All articles are subject to editing to fit allotted space and submission does not guarantee publication.

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MUSINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Gordon S. Savage, DTM

We started this issue of the Dialogue with an article on the district conference by Yvonne Bryant, president of Summit Toastmasters. The article was taken almost verbatim from the Summit Toastmasters' Blog. Does your club have a blog? If it doesn't, perhaps you should think about it.

You can use a blog as an online newsletter. You can use it to recognize member achievement. It can also serve to let your community know about your club. That's right, it can be a tool for promoting membership.

In addition, search engines tend to give a higher rating to sites with more links to them. By placing a link to your club site in your blog and a link to your blog on your club site, you increase the probability that a search engine will put either or both of them nearer

the top of the list, and every little bit counts.

Money is generally not the problem. There are a number of free sites, there are some that are free for the basic package but charge for additional features, and some that charge a fee or require you to carry ads.

However, to make them effective, there is a labor cost. If your blog is to serve its purpose, either as a newsletter or a promotional site, someone has to take responsibility for regular posting (blogging) and for insuring that quality material is posted. Ideally, all members should contribute.

Is blogging for your club? Check it out. If you have someone who is willing to spend the time and effort, you may find it's just what you need. ■



Through a blog, an ordinary citizen such as myself can use the Internet, this thing invented by Albert Gore, to talk from my house to the U.S. capital and to make use of my right to point out to government officials and to the media when they are wrong.

~John Jay Hooker