



The Advantage

Volume 1, Issue 5
January 2003

Competition is Healthy

The District 47 Spring Conference will be held in Orlando bringing together Toastmasters from 9 Divisions to compete. Who will represent Division A at the conference? It could be you.

Spring speech contests are Table Topics and International Speech. They begin at the club level and progress to Area, Division and culminating at District (at least for Table Topics). The time to consider entering is now. The Division Contest will be May 2, 2003 and the Area Contests will be in April. That means all club contests need to conclude by the end of March.

All Toastmasters in good standing are eligible to compete (excluding District Officers). In addition, to compete in the International Speech contest a Toastmaster must have completed at least six (6) manual speeches prior to the club contest.

For complete rules, please contact your Area Governor.

They Are Coming!

Every year at the Regional and International Toastmaster Conferences new Directors are elected to serve Toastmasters throughout the world. For a candidate to be elected he or she needs to collect votes from each club. The only officers capable of casting a vote are the club's President and VP of Education.

Toastmasters International recognizes that every Toastmaster will not be able to attend each conference. Knowing this, they send out proxies to the Club President of record in February/March. When you receive this proxy you have the option of (1) taking it to the conference and voting it, (2) signing it over to another club member to vote it at the conference, or (3) signing it over to your District Governor to vote it at the conference.

It is very important that you do not lose the proxy, that you make a decision on a candidate and make your vote count. **Remember: The Proxies are Coming!**

Special points of interest:

- ☞ February 28—Club Officer training deadline
- ☞ March 1—30 Club Speech contests
- ☞ April 1—Club dues deadline
- ☞ April 1—30 Area Speech contests
- ☞ April 30—Area Governor visit deadline
- ☞ May 2, 2003—Division A International Speech and Table Topics Contest
- ☞ May 16—18, 2003—District 47 Spring Conference—Orlando, Florida



January

Inspiring Voices

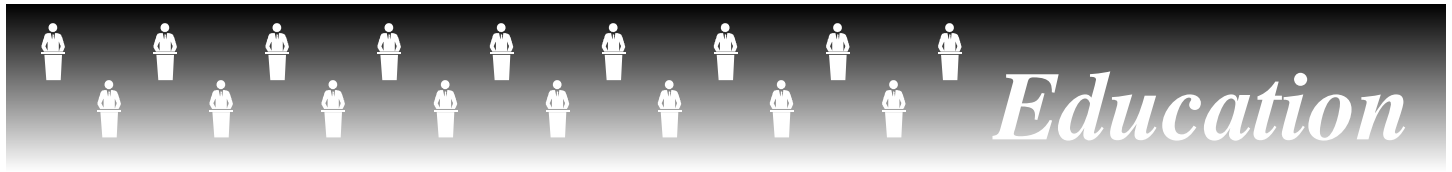
Daytona Beach
Chartered: 2002
1 Year

The Tower Speak Easy

Jacksonville
Chartered: 2001
2 Years

Arlington

Jacksonville
Chartered: 1972
31 Years



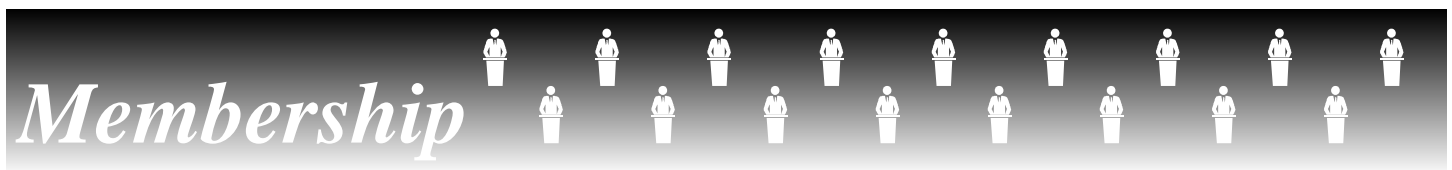
Congratulations! **December Educational Achievements**

Competent Toastmasters

Alberta Hipps (Arlington)
Jan Watson (Daytona Beach)
Anna Magie Guest (Orange Park)
Stephen E. Lynch (Beaches)
Millie K. Tannen (Toast of Jax)
Ian McKeown (LOGS)

Advanced Toastmasters

Johnny D. Ledford (Work Source)
Stephen A. Roberts (Arlington)



Do your members look forward to your next Toastmasters meeting? Are most of your guests joining your Club? If your answer to either question is “no,” it’s time to find out why.

The Moments of Truth is a tool that can help you analyze your Club to determine if your Club meets the needs of new and existing members.

Is the prospective member greeted warmly and introduced to the members of the Club and made to feel at home? If the answer is yes, then your Club was successful during this particular moment of truth! *The Moments of Truth* evaluation is an objective look at Club operations in the following categories:

- * First impressions
- * New member orientation
- * Fellowship, variety, and communication
- * Program planning and meeting organization
- * Membership strength
- * Recognizing accomplishments

After your Club completes *The Moments of Truth*, analyze the results of your evaluation and work on any items that need it!

The Moments of Truth (Catalog No. 290) is available from World Headquarters.
(Information provided by Toastmaster Program CLUB LEADERSHIP: *Attracting New Members to Your Club.*)