

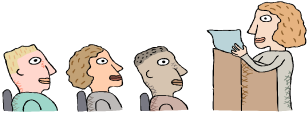


# Speak Up!

District 55

Club # 9752

August, 2012



## President's Corner – Kay McManus

As your President, allow me to assure you that I serve as your representative at various area, division, district and international levels and activities. Likewise, each current officer (a/k/a/ Leader) has the same opportunity, in their specific field of responsibility, and has attended a training session lead by fellow Toastmaster's experienced in that position. Your officers are aware of their role and responsibilities and stand ready to serve. Each member has the opportunity to represent the Lake Travis Toastmaster club in their community of business associates and friends. Along with the officers who serve as the Club's Executive Committee, and the creation of special committees when necessary, we are supported by Area, Division, District and International efforts and guided

by Governing Documents such as Toastmasters International and Club By-Laws.

Secondly, there are specific deadlines and important tasks, laid out by Toastmasters International that each club is encouraged to attain. I would like to share the next four months' schedule with you:

### September:

- 1) Collect and submit dues
- 2) Plan and Publicize upcoming contests
- 3) Plan to attend upcoming district conference
- 4) Promote the club to build membership and receive the Smedly Award
- 5) Recognize member achievements
- 6) Strive to achieve presentations and leadership goals in order to be recognized in the Distinguished Club Program

### October\*:

- 1) Continue to announce and publicize the upcoming district conference / contest

- 2) Recognize member achievements
- 3) Report the results of membership building efforts
- 4) Support contestants in Club, Area and Division contests

### November:

- 1) Assist with Area and Division contests
- 2) Attend District Conference
- 3) Recognize member achievements

### December:

- 1) Complete the Club Success Plan
- 2) Officers attend training for their position (club officers are elected on a 6 month or 12 month basis, thus training every 6 months)
- 3) Send revised Club Officer list to TMI
- 4) Recognize member achievements
- 5) Review Club Budget

\*October is especially exciting for our club because we will be celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> year of our charter as a Toastmaster club.



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Please remember to invite family and friends!!!  
For additional information about Lake Travis, District 55 or Toastmasters International please visit the following links:

<http://Laketravis.toastmastersclubs.org>  
[www.tmd55.org](http://www.tmd55.org)  
[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)

Your Faithful President, Kay McManus 512-431-8069;  
[kay@kay-kan.com](mailto:kay@kay-kan.com)



## VP Education – Mary Jo Lucas

Mary Jo has taken the new challenge to be our VP of Education. She is very excited and will follow-up with members' speech status and goals, and also introduce the Mentoring Program for the new members. She is also responsible for providing and

maintaining the positive environment and the programs through which the members can learn and grow.

## VP Membership - Rick Carpenter

Rick has the task to build membership and ensuring a strong membership base by satisfying the needs of all members. His job is vital to the growth and success of the club. Of course, he needs your help in doing so.

## VP Public Relations - Consuelo Hartman

Consuelo is emailing press releases of the club's events to various newspapers and magazines on a regular basis.

## Treasurer - Faye Crossett

Faye is our perennial treasurer. She gave us a report on our club's financial status. She will also send club dues reminders to the members' to cover the next Toastmaster's term.

## Secretary – Kirti Sheih

Kirti is our new Secretary. He will be taking the minutes and other club communications.

## New Members' Corner

**Welcome new members!!!**

### Renu Selli

Renu was born in Northern India; district Hoshiarpur, which is situated in the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains. She was raised by her grandparents. At the age of 12 years, she went to live with her parents in England, where she was educated and had a long career in public health. She attended several universities in England and managed to gain three degrees. Her highest degree is masters in applied biology. She moved to Austin, Texas, in 1994, when her husband's job was relocated. For most of these years she stayed at home to raise her family, while pursuing some of her interests such as gardening and photography. Her current job



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requires enforcing FDA regulations at the state level and it means a lot of travel on a daily basis. She inspects food facilities in a number of settings; and a large portion of her job also involves education of food service staff and management. She enjoys the quiet pursuits of life... reading, yoga, meditation, hiking and exercising. She loves good, wholesome and nutritious food, and loves to shop at wholefoods market, where she also worked before leaving to work for the State of Texas. She has also worked at Steiner Elementary School, Seton main hospital and Charles Schwab. Her goal is to improve her communication and leadership skills

### **Rob Arnold**

Rob was born in Chicago, Il. He graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1980. He worked in the Insurance Industry as an Underwriter and licensed Agent for 25 years. His current position is as Licensed Benefits Advisor for US Health Advisors in Austin,

TX. His website is: [www.ushagent.com/robarnold](http://www.ushagent.com/robarnold), his email address is: [rob.arnold@ushadvisors.com](mailto:rob.arnold@ushadvisors.com). He married in 1998 to his beautiful bride, Meg who is a Sales Executive for Convio/Blackbaud in Austin. He is a proud caretaker of their 11 year old dog, Petey. He likes to play golf with friends and clients when he can and charter sail boats in the Caribbean. He joined Toastmasters to enhance his communication skills in group settings and individual one-on-one presentations.

### **Mary Lynne Gibbs**

Living in Austin for over 30 years has given Mary Lynne deep roots in the community. As a teenager her father managed Tejas Country Store where the Lakeway Pharmacy is currently located. Some of her favorite memories and her work ethic began while working at Lakeside Video, formerly located next to Café Lago where she sold the first lottery tickets in Lakeway.

Her commitment to servant leadership and focus on heartfelt customer service swiftly catapulted her to be one of the area's leading Realtors. Mary Lynne was awarded, "2003 Rookie of the Year" at the Keller Williams Southwest Market Center, Austin's largest real estate office. She quickly became a Mega Agent and was invited to serve on the Agent Leadership Council in 2004, 2005 and 2006. Additionally, she chaired and participated as a committee member on the Recruiting/Retention, KW Cares (Caring Agents Responding to Emergency Situations), and Financial Planning and Education committees. Mary Lynne, Mark Willis and Mary Tennant believe that Keller Williams brings wonderful change to the lives of others, that belief propelled Mary Lynne to become Team Leader/Broker at Keller Williams Lake Travis Market Center in December 2006. Her success continues as she provides leadership to nearly



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300 Real Estate Agents in her Lake Travis office and is an Owner/Investor of the Keller Williams Cedar Park/Leander Market Center. Mary Lynne and her husband Marty enjoy relaxing at South Padre Island with their daughters, Kristy, Kelly, Kerrigan and her Mother, Joy. One of her favorite activities is waterskiing on Lake Travis. She also enjoys her membership in Lohmann's Ford Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mary Lynne continues to touch the lives and hearts of those she meets, giving back and making positive changes in the lives of others as she partners with Keller Williams making "wonderful changes" in the lives of her clients.

**Note:** We are really happy and blessed to count these new, very accomplished people as members of our LTTM club.



**Way to Go!**

### Our Club's Achievements

#### Congratulations to our Club!

We are one of 87 clubs out of the 178 in District 55, to make this list with Select Distinguished recognition for the year 2011-2012.

This is one of those things no one person can make happen - THANK YOU!!!

We have a great team.

Special thanks to all the members, especially Cathleen for making it a reality.

#### Lake Travis Toastmasters Celebration

Lake Travis Toastmasters held a New Member induction and Officer Installation ceremony at the Lakeway Activity Center on Monday, July 30, 2012.

Inductees were:

Chris Hewitt, Jerri Ward,  
Marben Bland, Marc Morales,  
Mary Jo Lucas, Mary Lynne  
Gibbs, Renu Selli, Rick

Carpenter, Rob Arnold, Wade Cohn.

Serving as Officers during the 2012-2013 term are:  
Marc Morales, Sergeant at Arms; Kirti Sheth, Secretary; Faye Crossett, Treasurer; Consuelo Hartman, VP Public Relations; Rick Carpenter, VP Membership; Mary Jo Lucas, VP Education; Kay McManus, President.

Following the ceremonies our group enjoyed Table Topics, where various members are called upon to speak extemporaneously. Throughout the evening refreshments of various cultures were enjoyed by the group gathered.

#### Induction of New Members



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**Installation of New Officers**

### **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (Advance Notice)**

On September 30, 2002 the Lake Travis Toastmaster Club (#9752) received its Charter from Toastmasters Int'l. Our club will be celebrating ten years on the 1st of October. The members have elected to have the event at the Activity Center, with members inviting family and friends and bringing food and drink items to share.

We will pass a sign-up sheet at the meeting on September 17th!

### **Club Members' Achievements**

- Submitted by Wade Cohn -

“Some of you heard me give a speech titled, "The First Wish". It was a story about Chris Greicius and how his wish to become a police officer led to the founding of the Make-A-Wish Foundation back in 1980. Some of you expressed interest in looking up Make-A-Wish Austin and seeing how you could contribute. Based on that interest, I thought I'd pass along a way that you can do just that. I've been working with Make-A-Wish to help them move more towards an on-line giving model that is centered around the stories of the kids that they help and getting a whole lot of people to give a little. In return, MAW will keep you connected to the wish stories that your donation helped grant. We are rolling out the 1st phase of that plan and I'd like to give

you guys the opportunity to participate.

If you're interested, here is the link to my page where you can read more. If not, no worries.

<http://bit.ly/LIuq01>

Feel free to forward this to anybody that you'd like. The more people that have the opportunity to participate, the better. Thanks.”

### **Club Meeting Highlights**

#### ***August 6 meeting:***

We enjoyed a well-organized and informative meeting last Monday. Heading it was Kirti Sheih who expertly talked about his theme: "Healthy food, healthy minds and body, healthy community." It was followed by a speech from Renu Selli on how one simple habit can save a life and also prevent health problems arising from food-borne illnesses. Our second speaker, Kay McManus, spoke about "The Box" containing a plethora of club resources, such as, CC/Advance manuals, CDs on public speaking, TMs brochures, Success Leadership modules, etc. that all members can take advantage of.





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Table Topics was conducted by Mary Lynne Gibbs who did a great job of tying her questions with the theme of the meeting. The WOD was "Copacetic" - an interesting word (provided by Rob Arnold) which means: In excellent order, fine, satisfactory.

In summary, I would say that this meeting fulfilled this meaning: "It was a copacetic meeting due to all the contributing members' performance."

The meeting started and finished on time.

The business portion: 1) Officers present gave a monthly summary of their roles, duties and goals.

2) Proposed changes to current LTTMs club Constitution and by-laws: Articles IV, V and VI were voted and approved.

We hope to see the absentee members at our next meetings. We miss you all. Please let any of us officers know if you need any guidance in your Toastmaster's path.

Every member's commitment is vital to the success of our club.

*August 20 meeting:*

- Submitted by Cathleen McGrath -

Monday was an effervescent evening.

Mary Lynne Gibbs entertained us with a "roast" from the advanced speaker series that gently introduced us to a good friend and co-worker who is retiring. Jeri Ward also speaking from the advanced speaker series, enlightened us with an acerbic political commentary on magical thinking in the economic arena. Both speakers were so concentrated on their topic that they overshot the time.

Toastmaster of the evening, Faye Crossett, cheered everyone with her questions addressing her meeting theme of "Transformation." The table topic section was conducted by Cathleen McGrath, and the best response was provided by Rob Arnold.

During the business portion of the meeting it was decided not to have a meeting the first week in September as it conflicts with Labor Day.

Geri Ward will represent our club at the upcoming area contest speaking on Tall Tales.

**Note:** Thank you Cathleen! for your timely help.

### Toastmasters Int'l News

#### It's Time for the Smedley Contest

Help your clubs prepare for this year's round of the original membership-building contest named in honor of Toastmasters' founder, Ralph C. Smedley. The Smedley Award competition started August 1 and ends September 30. For more information and contest rules, visit [www.toastmasters.org/membershipcontests](http://www.toastmasters.org/membershipcontests).

#### Toastmasters Is Bigger and Better!

The results are in, and our membership has grown! With more than 280,000 members in over 13,500 clubs in 116 countries, Toastmasters International is helping more people than ever to become



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more confident speakers and leaders.

## The Toastmaster Digital Edition

Bookmark

[www.toastmasters.org/magazine](http://www.toastmasters.org/magazine) to flip through the digital edition. You can customize your view and share articles with friends. You can read past issues or [log in](#) to see the current edition. If you prefer to read your magazine online and do not wish to receive the magazine by mail, simply email a request to [magazine@toastmasters.org](mailto:magazine@toastmasters.org).

## Upcoming Events:

**September 10: Club contest – Tall Tales & Table Topics (maybe a combined club contest with Digital Toast – AG will find out)**  
**September 17: Area contest**  
**October 1: 10<sup>th</sup> year club anniversary celebration**  
**November 9-11: Fall 2012 District 55 Conference in Austin TX. Theme: "Mission Possible, Launch Your Leaders."**  
(Full registration is \$115.00). There is also A la Carte pricing.

## Congratulations!!!



Happy birthday to the following member:

Kay McManus – August 7



## Educational Corner

### Mentor a Member

#### What is a mentor?

A mentor takes a personal interest in and helps an inexperienced person, offering knowledge, insight, perspective or wisdom.

Most **new members are not familiar with your club**. They don't know what a timer is or what an Ah-Counter does. Yet **new members are expected to participate** and give speeches – something many are terrified to do. Many clubs expect them to do all of this with a minimum of instruction and guidance.

New members need someone to explain the program to them and **show them how to prepare for various meeting roles**. They also need help preparing and rehearsing their first few speeches. Mentors can supply the valuable personal attention and ongoing support new members need.

#### Benefits of mentoring for new members:

- Learn the program and club customs (CC and CL manuals, club meeting roles, membership opportunities)
- Develop confidence and improve participation in club activities
- Quickly learn speaking skills to advance faster

#### Benefits of mentoring for experienced members:

- Refine and revitalize existing skills
- Learn new skills

#### Benefits for mentors:

- Learn new information and perspectives from those you mentor
- Keep your knowledge and skills sharp



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- Receiving recognition and appreciation by fellow members

### Benefits for clubs:

- Improved member retention
- More satisfied members

(Article from the TI website)

### *On the Motivational Side*

A *Secret Scrolls* message from Rhonda Byrne, Creator of *The Secret*

The **law of attraction** cannot change anything in your life that you hate, because hate prevents the change from coming. Since the law is giving us exactly what we are putting out, when you hate something the law must continue to give you more of what you hate. You will not be able to move away from it. Love is the only way.

If you focus completely on the things you love, then you are on your way to a beautiful life. May the joy be with you!

*Saying of the Month*  
*- On Achievement -*

Doing little things well is a step toward doing big things better

--00--

Old dreams never die; they just get filed away.

--00--

The first step toward change is awareness. The second step is acceptance.

--00--

### *Good Clean Fun!*

How many princesses does it take to screw in a light bulb?

*One. The princess holds the light bulb while the rest of the world revolves around her.*

### THE MISSION OF THE CLUB

The mission of a Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every

member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

### Special Note:

Got suggestions or ideas of things you want to see covered? Drop me a line at [harco001@gmail.com](mailto:harco001@gmail.com). I also welcome your timely contributions by the 27<sup>th</sup> of each month.