



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

District 29 Newsletter



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District 29 Newsletter Editor

This issue is dedicated to "Cultivating a Leadership Culture" within Toastmasters clubs.

Building leadership skills is one of the primary benefits of Toastmasters membership. Yet, encouraging early sign-up for club roles is a commonly expressed concern of club leaders during the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI). If members are not eagerly stepping up to club roles, how can they be encouraged to go beyond the club to take part in area, division and district leadership opportunities? In this issue, we explore "Cultivating a Leadership Culture" and time-proven tips for evaluating and enhances your club's effectiveness in growing leaders.

▶ **Building leadership skills is one of the primary benefits of Toastmasters membership.**



Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club #8913 Cultivating a Leadership Culture: Growing Leaders

Impressive would be an understatement regarding the achievements of Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club. The self-professed "Best Toastmasters Club in the Universe" is one of three clubs in Districts 27 & 29 that have consistently achieved 10 out of 10 Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goals year-after-year. Toastmasters International reported that from 2004 - 2012, worldwide only 48 clubs have achieved 10 out of 10 Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goals for nine consecutive years, and Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club #8913 is one of them! Founding co-sponsors, Distinguished Toastmasters Sharyn and Joe Jarzombek (pictured) credit the club's success in great part to its ardent commitment to growing leaders who hold true to the Toastmasters brand and Member Promise.

Without a doubt, the Jarzombek's are dedicated Toastmasters. Between the two of them they have been involved in the charter of over thirty Toastmasters clubs within the United States and Canada. Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club reflects their commitment to mentoring members into leaders. They encourage volunteerism and service beyond the club level. The club's record of leaders includes seven of twenty-one District 27 Governors (prior to reforming as a part of District 29); two District Governors outside of the home district; two International Directors from Region VII; and many other members have served as Area Governors/Area Directors with some of those also having served as Division Governors/Division Directors.

TALK TIPS

Practice and rehearse frequently prior to delivering your speech. Ask friends to be your audience, or practice in front of a mirror. Be sure to use a timer to help you pace your speech.

[More Tips](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

District 29 Spring 2017
Conference and Speech Contests
May 13, 2017

For more information on these and other announcements, visit

www.tmd29.org

I think the key to being a good leader is recognizing that everyone has gifts and talents. A good leader will learn how to harness those gifts toward the same goal.

~ Ben Carson

Even more impressive, two Lake Ridge members have served as Region Advisors (RA) within the first two years of the position being created. Joe Jarzombek, DTM, PID, served as RA for Region 7 in 2010-2011 and RA for Region 9 in 2011-2012. Jim Heeren, DTM, served as RA for Region 7 in 2011-2012. As such, Lake Ridge Toastmasters is the only club worldwide to have two concurrently serving RAs to have the same home club.

 **"Toastmasters isn't a spectator sport...approach individuals with specific leadership roles based on their goals and talents." ~ Sharyn and Joe Jarzombek**

How Do They Do It?

How does Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club cultivate leaders? Sharyn and Joe Jarzombek provided a few time-proven tips for cultivating a leadership culture:

1. Encourage new members to step forward as leaders while more seasoned Toastmasters serve as mentors and coaches
2. Create a culture that expects excellence measured by the DCP goals
3. Encourage involvement in Toastmasters outside of the club including joining other Toastmasters clubs and volunteering for roles, committees, and offices
4. Develop and use good meeting agenda templates and schedule roles a least three meetings in advance
5. Meet regularly. Lake Ridge Toastmasters meets weekly which they believe provides for more learning opportunities
6. Don't rely on a general call for officers – get personal! Involve members in specific leadership roles according to their goals and talents. Explain the benefits gained from the experience
7. Institute a very strong mandate for all incoming officers to attend the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) and strive to provide one or more mentor(s) for each executive officer to be copied on their email list and attend executive meetings
8. Have a Competent Leadership (CL) Coordinator for every meeting so that members are encouraged to bring their CL manuals. List this position on the agenda and have the role explained at the beginning of the meeting
9. Publically acknowledge and praise current leaders to show newer members behavior worthy of emulating.
10. Show club pride! Use the club's Website and social media pages to regularly report club and individual success. This is useful for informing members as well as potential guests.

District 29 Spring Conference Evaluation and International Speech Contest

FUN, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP!

When: Saturday, May 13, 2017 (7:30 am – 7:00 pm)

Where: Capital One Headquarters

1680 Capital One Drive

McLean, VA 22102-3491

Click here for [Registration](#)

Click here for promotional [video](#)



Current president, Abubakar Bello, CC, has a great torch to carry, "I strive, with the support of the executive committee, to align the club as close as possible to the Toastmasters International ideals." He states Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club will continue the legacy of cultivating a leadership culture by encouraging the incoming officers to emphasize mentoring and the development of competent leaders.

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*Founded in June 1992, Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year! The achievements details in this article are just a sample of the club's commendable record of success. To view more information regarding the club's history visit [www.lakeridge.toastmasters.org](http://www.lakeridge.toastmasters.org).*

### Final Thoughts

Of particular note regarding Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club is the longevity of its members. It's a benefit to have charter members still actively engaged in the life of the club and passing the history and mission onto new members. One such member, former president, Distinguished Toastmaster Karen Booker, just celebrated 30 years as a Toastmaster!

This is the season for executive officers nominations. If you need to encourage future leaders, consider contacting Lake Ridge Toastmasters Club to invite one of the leaders to do a presentation on leadership service. [www.lakeridge.toastmastersclubs.org](http://www.lakeridge.toastmastersclubs.org).