



Top Notch Toastmasters - Fort Worth, Texas - Every Wednesday at 7pm at Julie's Fresh Kitchen

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 and practice communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

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Do you have a story? Email [newsletter@
TopNotchToastmasters.com](mailto:newsletter@TopNotchToastmasters.com)

Club Achieves "Select Distinguished" Status by BJ

With the completion of a CC and the addition of 4 new members, the club was able to accomplish the 6th and 7th goal to become a Select Distinguished Club for 2009-2010!

To achieve two goals, the club needs two ACs to be completed. All ten goals could be reached if we were to sign up an additional 4 members after that. This same time last

year, only three goals were recognized as being competed by TI. In the 2006-2007 year, 6 goals were accomplished.

We are well within reach of becoming a President's Distinguished Club! The easiest thing to do is bring a friend and get them to join!



New Member Highlight – Karen

My name is Karen Yancey. I am an educator in Fort Worth, Texas. I have taught high school for two years as a special education teacher and one year as an English teacher. I earned my bachelor's degree in Journalism and I

wrote for my college paper. I grew up in College Station, Texas where I earned my Bachelor's and Master's degrees. I love to blog and take care of my two year old child. I am entering a Ph.D program in Educational

Administration this summer at UT Arlington. I am looking very forward to it.

Please be sure to welcome her into the club and help her out with anything she has questions on.

Member Highlight – Robert

Robert D. Richardson Sr., DTM joined Toastmasters International as a member of the United States Air Force at Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines, in 1987. He has been an active member ever since. Upon returning to the United States, Robert joined Carswell Toastmasters at Carswell Air Force Base and eventually Afterburners Toastmasters Club #6191. Robert is a charter member of Top Notch Toastmasters Club #805

Robert has served District 25 at both the club level and the District level. He has held every club office, most more than once. He was President of two clubs – Afterburners #6191 and Show Stoppers #9984. Show Stoppers is a fairly new company club and

Afterburners is celebrating it's 24th anniversary in March of 2006. Robert has served as an Assistant Division Governor, a Division Governor, District Public Relations Officer, Lt. Governor of Marketing, Lt Governor of Education and Training, and District Governor for the year 2000-2001.

Robert and his wife Linda Richardson, DTM have four children. Heather recently completed her elementary school teacher certification, Heath will be completing his active duty service in the U.S. Army this April and will be returning to school to complete his degree; Ian will be graduating in May from the University of

North Texas with a degree in International Affairs and will be receiving his commission in the U.S Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant; Robert Jr. keeps his father busy with his involvement in various different sports.

Robert in Irving for The EXPO Group as the Assistant Manager – Customer Account Management. The Expo Group is a General Contractor for trade shows across the United States. As a manager and team leader, Robert manages small teams at show site working with exhibitors on the trade show floor. In addition to Toastmasters, Robert enjoys spending time with his family, working on his home, and reading.

Announcements

Talk up Toastmasters

March 31 ended the Talk Up Toastmasters program. We needed 5 people to join in the February and March months to earn a ribbon.

New Members

Karen joined this month along with Brian who had been attending off and on for the last few months. Please welcome

them in and look for their new member bios coming in the upcoming newsletters and their ice breaker speeches.

Division Contest

The Division contest is April 24th. Robi will be competing in the Tall Tales contest. Details are still being worked out on the location and time, but an email will be sent out when more information

is available.

Chandler is expecting

Chandler is expecting to have a baby in October. He doesn't know the sex of the baby and hasn't announced any names.

What You Should Have Said – Toastmasters International

The value of planned spontaneity.

Whatever *can* go wrong *will* go wrong, and usually at the worst possible time. Therefore, as a speaker, you need to be prepared, armed with clever lines that prove you are not only in control, but you can think on your feet. As any good comedian would say, be prepared – with some witty lines in case something doesn't go according to plan.

Scott Friedman, a speaker, author and past president of the National Speakers Association, says: "The key in delivering planned spontaneity is to pause for a moment after the incident or comment, look up like you are thinking, and then – boom – deliver the line." Here are some samples, from an article in the *Toastmaster* magazine:

The microphone goes dead:

- "Evidently, someone has heard this speech before."
- "Let me have a show of hands: How many of you read lips?"
- "This is carrying Silent Night a little far. (Holiday time)"

Feedback from the microphone:

- "If I wanted some feedback, I would have asked for it."
- Stare cautiously to the left, while listening to the microphone buzz. Then say in a concerned tone, "Whatever it is, it's getting closer."

When the lights go out or flicker:

- "I've often had people doze off during my talk, but never an entire chandelier." – Gene Perret
- "I do my best work in the dark."
- "This lighting really plays tricks on your eyes. I'm actually a lot more handsome and skinnier than I look."
- "Everyone's a critic."

Loud noises:

- "Mom, can you be a little more careful?"
- "That concludes the musical portion of the program."

Fire alarm or bell:

- "Time to take my pill."
- "So that's what happened to my wake-up call."

Slide is upside down:

- "For those of you standing on your heads..."
- "This is the Australian part of the presentation."

Writing on flipchart and you run out of ink:

- "Obviously, I've come to the dry part of my presentation. "

Participant walks out:

- "Look, my first walking ovation."
- "It gets better, I promise. I walked out of my first talk."

Need help giving a speech? These Toastmasters.org items help:

[Fear Factor](#)

[Tips & Techniques](#)

[Business Presentations](#)

[Special Occasions](#)

(Go to Toastmasters.org and search these terms if this is a paper copy)

BJ is looking for people who are willing to be videotaped while giving a speech for the website. If you have interest in this, contact him at BJ@topnotchtoastmasters.com

Distinguished Club Program as of March 28

		GOAL	ACTUAL	PENDING	ACHIEVED	NOTES
[1]	CCs	2	2		YES	Chandler, Jody
[2]	Additional CCs	2	2		YES	Robi, BJ
[3]	ACs	1	0			
[4]	Additional ACs	1	0			
[5]	CL, AL, or DTM	1	1		YES	Ron
[6]	Additional CLs, ALs, or DTMs	1	1		YES	Ron
[7]	New Members	4	4		YES	Imelda, Julie, Chris C, Brian
[8]	Additional New Members	4	0			
[9]	Officers Trained (both required)				YES	
	June-August	4	4			Ken, Chandler, BJ, Barry, Chris
	and December-February	4	4			Robi, Ron, Gina, Chandler, BJ
[10]	Submitted on time (both required)				YES	
	October or April Renewal	1	2			
	and Officer List	1	1			
	Total Goals Achieved To-Date:				7	

Note: Some points have not been accounted for such as additional CCs. Paperwork is being processed for those points. The Distinguished Club Program helps promote our club and provides goals for the club as a whole to achieve. Each meeting we put this table up with what has been accomplished to date. From this table, one can see that we have only **2** more things to achieve to become a President's DC!

Presidents Corner by Chandler

We are approaching home stretch. What goals have you accomplished this year? Do you have any goals you'd like to accomplish before the end of the year? Now is the time to step it up a notch. Let any officer or your mentor know what we can do to help.

Each officer's biggest reward is that their personal growth. Learning is directly proportionate to the level of effort they invest into the club, however each member needs to be cognizant of the sacrifice and effort our officers put into the club. After thanking them in person, please consider this officer for nomination of Outstanding Club Officer:

<http://www.d25toastmasters.org/awards/index.htm>

I would like to recognize this officer for a tremendous job well done:

Chris L., Vice President of Education - The cornerstone of our meetings is the weekly schedule. Our members have been able to grow and our club has been able to build upon the greatness that our elders have established, thanks to the consist output of our weekly schedule. Chris has made sacrifices that most people will never know about. In the midst of huge demands in his work and personal life Chris made this club a priority and we are all benefiting tremendously because of it. He has consistently prepared and distributed the schedule many weeks in advance. He takes time to make sure the needs of the club are met. Chris is a HUGE asset to Top Notch Toastmasters. Each of us needs to find the opportunity to thank him. Our club would not be what it is today if it weren't for Chris.