



Toastmasters District 18 Newsletter - Nov., 2018



District 18...Taking Our Show on the Road!

Toastmasters District 18 had display tables at two major events in Maryland and Delaware to get the word out and grow our clubs and members! We met lots of prospective new members and even saw a few current and former Toastmasters Nov. 1 at the Maryland Chamber of Commerce "50 Fest" celebrating the chamber's 50th anniversary at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. (see photos above and below). A few brave souls even gave Table Topics speeches and won prizes! Nov. 15 we are exhibiting at the 28th Annual New Castle County Women's Leadership Conference...if you're there, make sure you stop by our table!



A special thank you to Michael Smith, VP of Public Relations for the Mediators Toastmasters Club for volunteering his time at our table! Pictured here with District 18 Public Relations Manager Michele Chynoweth (left) and Maryland State Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Christine Ross



District 18 Toastmasters' Michael Smith, Club Growth Director Cynthia Williams and Michele Chynoweth proudly display at Maryland State Chamber event (left); Cynthia Williams with Baltimore Museum of Industry Executive Director Anita Kassof

Billboards and Mall Signs Proudly on Display!

Have you seen our District 18 Toastmasters billboards and mall signs in your travels lately? They're up and running in the Baltimore and Wilmington areas to try to bring in new members...let us know if you spot them and you'll be entered to win a Toastmasters mug at the spring conference!



Think Spring (Conference)! A Word from our District Director

Hello District 18 family,

As the cold weather and holidays approach us, I invite you to think about Spring, and our Spring Conference. Whether or not you have the DREAM to win a World Championship, I invite you to consider these pieces of advice during the holidays because soon after, our contest season begins.

- **Do** participate in the Club Contest. In the spring, we will hold three (3) contests; International Speech, Humorous Speech and Table Topics, all culminating at the District level, with the International Speech Contest winner going on to the Regional Quarter Finals. You can compete in one, two, or all three contests if you choose. If you choose not to compete, other roles are needed such as, judges, ballot counters, timers and contest masters. For clubs that only meet for an hour, it may not be feasible to have all three contests in one club meeting. Feel free to use multiple meetings to accommodate the members.
- **Remember**, every speech has a beginning, middle and end. If you have seen some of the semi-finals and world championship rounds, the exceptional speeches end with a moral, lesson learned, or action item. Table topics requires little to no preparation, but your 1-2 minutes still must have a cohesive flow.
- **Extra** practice makes almost perfect. The holidays are a perfect time to write a speech. Workloads are a little lighter, and you may be able to get home earlier. Set aside some time between shopping, cooking, decorating, wrapping and (fill in your busy word here) to write. You will enjoy the break in your day. Find others to practice with, our speeches always sound so good in the mirror. Get other opinions; did they laugh when you expected, did they cry when you expected, did they laugh when you wanted them to cry? Perception and interpretation is everything, and every person (and judge) is different, so you want to be sure your message is received the way you wanted.
- **Be Aware** of the judging rules. This pertains to the judges and the participants. The judging rules are different than the speech objectives in the communication program, and the judges scoring form is different for each contest. If you want more information about speech contest judging, I suggest you check the district 18 calendar for upcoming Judges training sessions.
- **Help Make** this contest season great. We remain in the motion of change. We are adding another contest into an already tight 1 ½ day conference agenda, we anticipate having more trained judges due to the efforts of our Chief Judge and his team working with all the Divisions to conduct training, and the District International Speech Contest will be professionally videotaped with the winning speaker's video being sent forward to be judged at the new quarterfinal regional level. Please, help your club start planning, and also offer your assistance to help at the Area, Division and District contests.

I look forward to hearing about all the members who participated in the club contests, and let's DREAM of the District 18 International Speech Contestant taking it all at the 2019 International Convention in Denver, Colorado!

Speech Contest references: All on the District 18 website: <https://www.toastmasters-d18.org/speech-contests/>

Some specific links below:

Speech contest rulebook: <https://www.toastmasters.org/~media/3117f77bbf4d430b8a403ececdd5f99f.ashx>

Downloadable speech contest kits;

International: <https://www.toastmasters.org/shop/contests/speech-contest-kits/1169--International-Speech-Contest-Kit>

Humorous: <https://www.toastmasters.org/shop/contests/speech-contest-kits/1169H--Humorous-Speech-Contest-Kit>

Warm Regards,
Elizabeth Carter, DTM
District 18 Director



Save the Date! 2019 Spring Conference!

And speaking of our next conference, we are pleased to announce that the **2019 District 18 Spring Conference to include Humorous Speech, International Speech and Table Topics Contests will take place:**

April 12th & 13th 2019

at the Sheraton Baltimore North

903 Dulaney Valley Rd. Towson, Maryland 21204

Volunteers needed, reach out to our District 18 Program Quality Director Cristol

Johnson: Email: pqd@toastmasters-d18.org

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

District 18 Toastmasters Group Facebook Page

(not a member? you're missing out on lots of news so join today!)

NOTE: To eliminate confusion, we are soon going to take down our other Facebook Page, "District 18 Toastmasters" and are asking you to please migrate over to our current "District 18 Toastmasters Group FB Page asap!"



Looking to Lead?

District 18 Leadership Nominations NOW OPEN!

We are pleased to announce that District 18 is now seeking nominations. All candidates declaring for a **2019-2020 District Leadership role** must declare their intent to run to the **District Leadership Chair (Tony Whitten)** no later than **December 15, 2018**.

Candidates running for **District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, and Division Directors** will need to indicate which position they are applying for.

Candidates will need to submit the official **Candidate Application Form** and the **Officer Agreement** and **Release Forms** to the District Leadership Chair (Tony Whitten) by the time of the interview process. Click below to access forms:

[Candidate Application Form](#)
[District Leader Nominating Form](#)
[Release Form](#)

Upcoming Events in Our District:
(for All Events, visit our District 18 Website):
[VIEW EVENTS CALENDAR](#)

World Champion of Public Speaking to Give Two Workshops at District 18 TLI in December!

World Champion of Public Speaking Pres Vasilev will attend our TLI (Training Leadership Institute) on **12/29/2018 at Bank of America, 655 Paper Mill Rd Newark, DE 19709**. Pres will present two workshops...This is a very exciting opportunity for our District. The TLI will also count for club officer credit.

Pres Vasilev rose above 30,000 contestants from 122 countries to become the 2013 World Champion of Public Speaking. For over a decade, he has studied, researched, and spoken on self-improvement, speaking, selling, and storytelling.

Pres has coached hundreds of speakers from around the world to craft compelling stories, deliver powerful presentations, and win speech contests. He is the author of the popular online training program *How to Master Compelling Storytelling*.

For more info on Pres, click here: [Pres Vasilev, World Champion of Public Speaking](#)

Cristol Johnson

District 18 Program Quality Director



Back by Popular Demand! DISTRICT 18 MEMBER COLUMN

CC Secret Rule #4: Embrace your faith - by Jay Green, District 18 Finance Manager

NOTE: (This column is the fourth in a series; the first three "secret rules" were: 1) Be willing to make a fool of yourself; 2) Derive confidence from competence; 3) Nothing Beats Experience.)

Do you wonder how some Toastmasters seem to be members of a secret club? You know the people I'm talking about. They're always taking leadership positions, giving presentations and competing in speech contests. Maybe they belong to a secret club with secret rules. They must belong to: Confidence Club! If there is such a secret club, and I'm not saying there is... these would be their rules...

What does it mean to be a person of faith? Does it mean you believe in yourself, a higher power or positive outcomes? These three forms of faith foster fierce confidence. Not all confident people have faith, but all faithful people have confidence!

The secret members of confidence club have faith in themselves, a higher power or positive outcomes. They believe they will achieve. They have faith a higher power is in their corner. They know life works out for them. When working on a problem they know they will find a solution, so they keep trying until they do. They appear tenacious because they keep at it. They appear smart because they have the answers. The truth is they are not determined, tenacious or smart. They are faithful! The faithful do not waver from the task at hand because they know they will succeed. Their faith is a constant source of confidence and reassurance.

When we talk about faith we usually mean faith in a higher power. Usually God. If you believe an all-knowing, all-powerful being is watching over and guiding you, of course you will be confident. If you believe he created you in his likeness, that you are a miracle, you are sure to draw confidence from this belief. Some people don't believe in an all-knowing God but they do believe in a higher power. Do you believe the universe has your back and will ensure things go your way? If so, you approach every situation with confidence because you know the universe is conspiring to help you. You are sure the wind will be at your back and the tide will turn in your favor. Mere mortals like Martin Luther King and Mother Theresa accomplish the most amazing miraculous achievements because they know the almighty is with them. If you know the almighty is with you, you have nothing to fear.

Pure optimism is another form of faith which fuels confidence. Maybe the most powerful. Think about it. If you believe in yourself, you expect to lose from time to time knowing your losses will eventually lead to victory. If you rely on faith in the lord, your lord may test your faith. You know he doesn't always intervene on your behalf. But if you are an optimist, you know everything always works out to your advantage. You exude confidence. If you accept a challenge and expect to win, there is no room for self-doubt. You won't imagine all the ways you can trip up. Or all the ways you will regret your decision. Or all the failures, embarrassments and missteps that could result. A strong sense of optimism leaves no room for fear or doubt. Pure optimism is a powerful ally!

Certainty is the essence of confidence. Confidence requires you believe you will achieve. Your beliefs may or may not be based on facts, proof and data. Your founded and unfounded beliefs are equally powerful. As Henry Ford said: "Whether you think you can, or you think you can't, you're right." Faith is belief without proof. It doesn't matter if you're confident you can climb to the peak of Mount Everest because you've done it before or you just have faith you can do it. Either way, you are equally certain you can reach the peak. Faith in yourself, a higher power or positive outcomes are all powerful sources of confidence. If you're looking for a constant source of confidence; embrace your faith. - **Jay Green**

www.HiMyNamels.biz

Stay tuned for Jay's fifth and final "rule": Preparation is paramount to confident performance

Your Feedback is Always Appreciated!

If you have any photos, articles, columns or news for our District 18 Newsletter please submit them to me at the email address below! Please restrict submissions (as well as AA Social Media posts) to Toastmasters and/or District 18-related items. And if you would like to help as a volunteer in public relations and/or marketing please also contact me via email.

Thanks in advance!

Cheers!

District 18 Public Relations Manager,

Michele Chynoweth

Toastmasters District 18

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