



SPOTLIGHT

The Spotlight is
on Your Success

FEBRUARY 2012 - vol 32, issue 8

Club 699
Area 12
District 5
Region 10

EXCELSIOR TOASTMASTERS



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MENTORED OVER THE HEAD

A MESSAGE FROM OUR
PRESIDENT, NORM NOMURA,
DTM

Have you ever been so “clueless” that someone had to figuratively “hit you over the head” to make you understand? That happened to me recently with a mentor relationship of mine. You see, I was falling into a dangerous mindset, where I thought that I was growing out of the need for mentorship in a particular area. But back to this later.



At a recent club officer meeting, the topic of an Excelsior mentorship program came up. My immediate reaction was, “What?” A group of experienced toastmasters like us? A group with an International President, International Director, Regional Advisor, District Governors galore,

(continued on page 2)

Joyce Persichilli, Ralph C. Smedley Memorial Fund Honoree

by Eileen Hope

Joyce Persichilli holds the Smedley Memorial Plaque with her engraved plate at the bottom showing that Club 407, Past District Governors Club, has honored her with a donation to the Smedley Memorial Fund.

The plaque is permanently displayed on the Ralph Smedley Memorial Wall at Toastmasters International World Headquarters in Santa Margarita, CA.

According to Toastmasters International, the Ralph C. Smedley Memorial Fund was established to continue the legacy of its Founder and support the development of new communication and leadership programs (such as the new leadership manual).

The Ralph C. Smedley Memorial Fund is supported through individual donations, club, honorary, memorial, corporate contributions, and foundation grants.

For more information about the Fund, please visit:

www.toastmasters.org/Members/MembersFunctionalCategories/AboutTI/SmedleyMemorialFund.aspx





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[President's Message continued]

and some of the best speakers in the world? Advanced communicators all! Why would anyone in this club want or need a mentor? And who are we to think that we could be a mentor in such an esteemed crowd?

A mentorship program? I thought of it as a futile exercise until looking more closely and my own experience in getting "mentored over the head." Considering the wealth of knowledge and experience that we are fortunate enough to have in this club, could the availability of a mentorship program be of value? I think so.

If I wanted to pursue a journey into District and International leadership, there are several members whom I would love to mentor me. If I want to take my

speaking to the highest level, I ask those who are where I want to be or have skills that I want to learn.

The truth is, we don't know what we don't know. We can't see what we can't see. Mentors know this, and remain a treasure of knowledge and guidance ripe for the asking. I for one am glad that we have so many members with so much expertise in so many areas.

If Excelsior had a list of willing mentors and their areas of expertise, **consider making your special skills** and knowledge known to the club. **Consider making yourself available** to mentor those of us who would love to tap into your experience. And **consider your asking others for mentorship** in areas of interest to you.

Now back to my "cluelessness".

A great mentor will offer the truth as they see it. I am fortunate enough to have a mentor who cares enough to offer the truth freely. To really hear the truth, a mentee must have the trust based on a good relationship. When a good relationship exists, the mentor can be free to hit the mentee over the head with mentorship from time to time. Such was the case when I was brought back to reality just when I thought I had all the answers. I should know better. No one has all the answers. My mentor taught me that.

When we understand that we're always learning, we won't end up getting mentored over the head.

Norm Nomura



DUES ARE DUE

Please submit your dues at the March meeting for the April to September membership period.

Checks should be made payable to '**Excelsior Toastmasters**' in the amount of **\$48**.

Unable to attend in March?

Please mail your \$48 check to Linda Parker, club Treasurer, at 3564 Papaya Way, Oceanside CA 92058.

Receipt of your dues prior to the April 1 deadline supports the club's efforts to accomplish Distinguished Club status!



*The 2011-2012
District Governor's Pin*

District Governor's Pin

Congratulations to Edna Nerona and Norm Nomura for earning their District Governor's pin from District 5 Governor, Rhonda Walthall.

According to the District 5 web site, the District Governor's pin is a tradition in Toastmasters Districts around the world. The pin symbolizes exceptional contributions and accomplishments in the Toastmasters program.

In District 5, the District Governor not only designs the pin but also sets the standard for earning the pin.

How can you earn this distinctive pin? You must achieve at least 10 points by participating in District training, District events, **or** by completing communication or leadership awards.

To see a detailed list of these standards, please visit:

http://d5toastmasters.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=247&Itemid=105



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FEBRUARY 7, 2012

EXCELSIOR CLUB CONTESTS RESULTS

**Congratulations to our International Speech &
Table Topics Winners**

International Speech: 1st Place - Richard Wira
2nd Place - David Allen
3rd Place - Kathleen Petrone

Table Topics: 1st Place - Gordon Pettus
2nd Place - Bob Clark

Contestant Update! For the international speech category, **David Allen** will be representing Excelsior Club in the Area 12 Contest (March 3, 2012)

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Excelsior members who participated in other contests:

Richard Wira International Speech:
1st place, Club 1808
1st place, Area 21
Advancing to Eastern Division Contest
(April 14, 2012)

David Allen International Speech:
1st Place, Poway Black Mountain Toastmasters
(Central Division)

Norm Nomura International Speech:
1st Place, Felicita Humor Toastmasters Club
(Northern Division)

Table Topics

Here are some table topics questions from various club and area contests. How would you have answered the following:

You have been selected to serve in the colonization of Mars. What is your function?

Should the government impose higher taxes or fee based services?

If you could go back to a particular age in your life, what age would you choose and why?

If you received a paid vacation for a week but had to choose between going to one of our national parks or a major cosmopolitan city, which would you choose and why?

If you could be stuck in an elevator with 3 people, who would you choose?



A SPECIAL EVENING OF LAUGHTER AND SERVICE! LIVE, LOVE, LAUGH with Altrusa International & Project Linus



Edna Nerona, Rose Waring,
and David Allen



Opportunity Drawing with Rose Waring

Saturday, February 18, 2012, was a special night of laughter and volunteer service for several Excelsior members. Altrusa International & Project Linus' San Diego North County Coastal members hosted their third annual event called "Live, Love, Laugh."

Held at Tio Leo's Restaurant in Carmel Valley, the successful event raised money for local children's community service projects.

Project Linus' President and Founder Rose Waring, chose eight talented speakers to perform their award

winning humorous speeches. David Allen, Edna Nerona, and Norm Nomura were among the featured performers. The audience was surprised and entertained with 'monkey business' (David Allen); 'Princess Leia's new hope wardrobe' (Edna Nerona); and a cartoon 'dreamland' (Norm Nomura).

Behind the scenes, Joyce Persichilli and John Stark volunteered their time to greet guests, setup registration, organize opportunity drawings, and distribute programs.

Congratulations to Altrusa International & Project Linus' San Diego North County Coastal members for putting together such a fun and worthwhile event.



Norm Nomura & Edna Nerona

In honor of Valentines Day, let's find out what kids think about love. . .

"If falling in love is anything like learning how to spell, I don't want to do it. It takes too long." -- Glenn, age 7

"Love is the most important thing in the world, but baseball is pretty good too." -- Greg, age 8

"I'm in favor of love as long as it doesn't happen when *Dinosaurs* is on television." -- Jill, age 6

"My mother says to look for a man who is kind. That's what I'll do. I'll find somebody who's kinda tall and handsome." -- Carolyn, age 8

"One of you should know how to write a check. Because, even if you have tons of love, there is still going to be a lot of bills." -- Ava, age 8

"You learn [how to kiss] right on the spot when the gooshy feelings get the best of you." -- Doug, age 7

"Don't do things like have smelly, green sneakers. You might get attention, but attention ain't the same thing as love." -- Alonzo, age 9

"If it's your mother, you can kiss her anytime. But if it's a new person, you have to ask permission." -- Roger, age 6

(*On seeing a couple kissing*) "He is trying to steal her chewing gum!" -- Boy, age 6

"Lovers will just be staring at each other and their food will get cold. Other people care more about the food." -- Brad, age 8

"See if the man picks up the check. That's how you can tell if he's in love." -- John, age 9

"You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming." -- Allan, age 10

"No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with." -- Kirsten, age 10

Source: *Things People Said*: <http://www.rinkworks.com/said/kidlove.shtml>, February 14, 2012



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2011 - 2012 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

Norman Nomura
President

Jan Lewellyn
Vice President, Education

Jean Douglas
Vice President, Membership

Edna Nerona
*Vice President,
Public Relations
and Newsletter Editor-In-Chief*

Linda Parker
Treasurer

Malcolm Pusey
Secretary

Harry Sundblad
Sergeant-At-Arms

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS:

Elisa Castañeda
Eileen Hope
Jan Lewellyn
John Murphy
Edna Nerona
Norm Nomura

PHOTO CONTRIBUTORS:

Eileen Hope
Edna Nerona
Norm Nomura

CLUB INFORMATION: MEETING DAY

FIRST TUESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH
TIME:
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM



MEETING LOCATION:

EL FANDANGO
RESTAURANT
(2ND FLOOR)
2734 CALHOUN ST.
SAN DIEGO, CA
(OLD TOWN)

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March 6, 2012 Meeting Roles



Pledge & Inspiration: Stephen Garrett

Toastmaster: Kathleen Petrone

Theme: **Success**

General Evaluator: Marcy Hays

Ah Counter: Richard Dial

Timer: Joe Castañeda

Grammarians: Alma Church

Table Topics: Elisa Castañeda

Speakers:

-->Gordon Pettus

-->David Allen

-->Jim Tucker



2012 Calendar*

March 3	Area 12 Speech Contest (flyer attached)
March 6	Toastmasters Membership Dues (see bottom of pg 2 for payment details)
March 6	Excelsior Club Meeting
March 11	Daylight Savings Time Spring Forward
April 6 - 14	Passover
April 8	Easter Sunday
April 21	Southern Division Contest
May 13	Mother's Day
May 18-19	Spring District 5 Conference (flyer and registration form attached)
June 17	Father's Day
August 15-18	Toastmasters International Conference Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Resort Orlando, FL

*Please consult the D5 Calendar as event dates are subject to change.

<http://d5toastmasters.org/>



Keynote and Educational Speaker:
Roberta Perry, DTM, ID

District Table Topics Contest

Lunch and C&L Award

District 5
Spring Conference
May 19, 2012



"From Dawn to Dusk: Toasting in Sun Diego"



Come and have a FUN adventure with your fellow Toastmasters all day.
Program includes: Roberta Perry, DTM, our International Director; two contests;
light breakfast, lunch and dinner; awards/recognition and much more.

Wear your best Hawaiian outfit during the day and
in the evening, semi formal for a special treat — Governor's Ball!!

GOVERNOR'S BALL:

Dinner,
District International Speech Contest,
and Dancing



Parking
Validated

Catamaran Resort Hotel
3999 Mission Boulevard • San Diego CA 92109

For upcoming information check our
District 5 Website: D5toastmasters.org

CONFERENCE AGENDA

-  **7:30 am** — Credentials Desk Opens
Registration / Light Breakfast
-  **8:00 am** — Welcome
-  **8:15 am – 8:45 am**
Keynote: Roberta Perry, DTM, ID - "Just Say Yes!"
-  **8:45 am** — Break / Sound Check For Contestants
-  **9:00 am – 10:00 am** — District Table Topics Contest
-  **10:15 am** — Break / Credentials Desk Closes
-  **10:30 am – 12:00 pm** — Business Meeting (FREE)
-  **12:15 pm – 2:15 pm**
C&L Award, DTM Awards & Lunch
-  **2:30 pm – 3:30 pm**
Educational Session - Roberta Perry, DTM, ID
-  **3:30 pm – 4:00 pm**
Helen M. Blanchard Trailblazer Award
Conference Recognition / Opportunity Drawing
- INTERMISSION**
-  **5:30 pm – 6:00 pm** — Social, No Host Bar
-  **5:45 pm – 6:00 pm** — Sound Check For Contestants
-  **6:00 pm – 8:30 pm**
Dinner / District International Speech Contest
-  **8:30 pm – 11:00 pm**
Governor's Ball

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Registration; Gift Basket Challenge; Opportunity; Greeter/ Stage Sgt At Arms; Door Sgt At Arms. Each of these Committee Chair positions can be used as a High Performance Project. Contact Eileen Hope no later than March 15th. (Hoped6@aol.com)

ADVERTISEMENTS: Want to get the word out about your business or club and help defray Conference expenses? Place an ad in the Conference Program. 1/3 page \$30, full page \$80. Deadline: May 7th. Contact Elisa Castañeda for details. (Ely.Castaneda@att.net)

FEATURED SPEAKER

Roberta, our current Region 10 International Director, has been a member of Toastmasters for over 25 years.

What leadership traits do successful leaders have in common? In this highly interactive session, our Keynote Speaker will explore those traits and share a surprise or two.



Roberta Perry
DTM, ID

In the afternoon educational session, she will be using the Toastmaster Program to suggest ways to incorporate those traits into our Toastmaster, business and personal lives.

COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP AWARD

District 5 Toastmasters annually presents a Communication & Leadership Award to a non-Toastmaster in our community who exemplifies the qualities of communication and leadership. This year's recipient will be honored at the Conference.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

FULL CONFERENCE

Early Bird before May 5th: *\$80 • After May 5th: \$100

Includes: 2 Contests, Light Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner,
Educational, Awards & Governor's Ball
(No meal choice guaranteed after 5/11/2012)

*All Early Bird Full Conference Registrations will be
entered into a SPECIAL drawing to win a \$50 Money Hat

DISTRICT TABLE TOPICS CONTEST ONLY

Early Bird before May 5th: \$15 • After May 5th: \$20

EVENING ONLY - GOVERNOR'S BALL

Dinner, District International Speech Contest, & Dance

Early Bird before May 5th: \$65 • After May 5th: \$80
(No meal choice guaranteed after 5/11/2012)

Make check payable to: District 5 Toastmasters
Mail Registration Form/Payment to:
Jan Lewellyn, DTM, Treasurer
2216 River Run Dr #85 • SD, CA 92108

Name _____

Highest Ed. Level (i.e., DTM, CC) _____

Club Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

☐ **Full Conference**

☐ **District Table Topics Contest Only**
9:00 am – 10:00 am

☐ **Evening Only - Governor's Ball** — 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Dinner choices: ☐ Mahi-Mahi ☐ Chicken ☐ Vegetarian

Amount enclosed \$ _____

(cut & mail)



Mail your registration form with payment asap or use your credit card via secured PayPal, through website: www.d5toastmasters.org
Registration is not official until payment is received. **This Conference Flyer will NOT be mailed.**