



THE MESSENGER

Bi-Monthly Newsletter / July - August 2017

Our Mission: To provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in a greater self-confidence and personal growth.

Inside this Issue

President's Corner	1
PR Campaign	1
Jessica Hentges	2
New Officers	2
Let's Celebrate	2
Professional Development	3
Boost Your Career	3
Coming Events	5
Dates to Remember	6
Just for Laughs	7

Club Information:

Area 61 * Division F
District 77 * Region 8
#

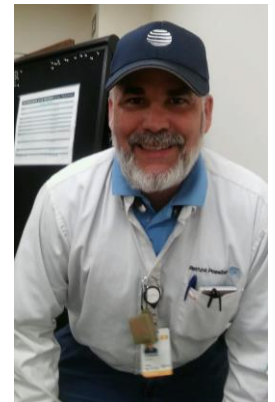
1876 Data Center Dr.
Hoover, AL

Meets: Thurs @ 6:00 pm
Editor: Anthony Williams

VPPR
Mary Gordon, ACB, ALB

President's Corner

Being part of this club provides the perfect place to share my ideas, develop my leadership and public speaking skills and meet and work with other members to help them reach their personal and professional goals. I am excited about the coming year. I encourage you to share your concerns and ideas. Together, as a team, we can achieve more!

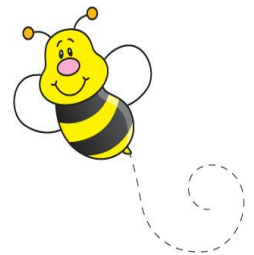


Quick reminder: There were a few changes for our club you should write down. While we are still District 77 and in Region 8, we are now Area 61 (not 21) and Division F (not B). Also, **starting July 13 we will meet at '6:00 pm - 7:15 pm'.**

~ Leonard Jackson, ACB, CL

"Bee-lieve It and Achieve It"

Data Center and the Vocalizers Toastmasters Clubs will host a Membership Campaign on Thursday, July 6 at 6 p.m. at the Hoover Public Library in the Shakespeare Room. The Open House event is open to the public. It is a wonderful opportunity for guests to experience a Toastmasters meeting, speak with members and ask questions. Refreshments will be available.



This collaboration will need everyone's involvement. Invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Post "Save the Date" flyers in your office break rooms or on community bulletin boards. With your help, we can have a great turnout! !



Onward and Upward

I had a wonderful year working with each of you as President of the Data Center Toastmasters club. I am very proud of the direction the club is heading.

Our new President, Leonard Jackson, is going to do a great job with the help and support of each of us! I look forward to our continued success. Thank you again for all of your support over the past year.

Jessica Hentges, DTM

Meet Your New 2017-2018 Officers

Elections for 2017-2018 for Data Center Toastmasters club officers were held April 27, 2017
Meet our new officers:

- President: Leonard Jackson, ACB
- VP Education: Jessica Hentges, DTM
- VP Membership: Anthony Williams
- VP Public Relations: Mary Gordon, ACB, CL
- Secretary: Rahul Shah
- Treasurer: Chitra "CK" Desai
- Sgt at Arms: Linda Hill, DTM

Division F Director
Area Director

Ashley Wrencher, DTM
Sonia DeYampert (Circle of Champions, Alabaster, AL)



Congratulations to all celebrating a July or August Birthday or Anniversary!

Congratulations to our President, Leonard Jackson, for earning his Competent Leader and VPPR Mary Gordon, for earning her Advanced Leadership Bronze



How Good Are Your Leadership Skills?

https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newLDR_50.htm

10 Ways Toastmasters Can **Boost Your Career**

by: *Katharine Hansen, PhD*

<https://www.livecareer.com/quintessential/boost-career>

Read unabridged article on the website

As best-selling author Harvey Mackay has said, "I've never met anyone who didn't think Toastmasters was super valuable to their career. We gain self-esteem, self-confidence, and assertiveness, which makes us better salespeople, better managers, better leaders."

Here are 10 ways the club can propel your career:

1. Chance to improve the skill most in demand by employers. Hiring decision-makers consistently list communication as the No. 1 skill they seek in new hires. The candidates who get jobs and get promoted are confident and are the best communicators. Toastmasters members have endless opportunities to polish this skill that is so crucial for career advancement. Members frequently credit Toastmasters with their new jobs and promotions.

2. Opportunity to polish leadership skills. Communication skills are a huge part of how Toastmasters helps professionals, but they go hand-in-hand with leadership skills. Since 2011, Toastmasters has emphasized leadership and developed the tagline, "Where leaders are made." Toastmasters is known for its well-organized and engaging meetings. They get that way through strong leadership. Members sharpen and practice leadership skills by running engaging meetings and special events.

3. Practice in thinking on your feet. The comedian George Jessel once said: "The human brain starts working the moment you are born and never stops until you stand up to speak in public". Toastmasters members attain experience in impromptu speaking during a regular meeting component called "Table Topics". In the workplace, the rewards of learning to speak on your feet are tremendous. You may be called upon to speak to your boss, the media, customers, and other audiences with little previous notice. Developing your ability to speak eloquently off the cuff means you're ready to talk about anything and respond quickly to questions instead of having your mind go

blank. And speaking of questions, can you imagine how practice in thinking and speaking on your feet can benefit you in a job interview?

4. Experience in running time-efficient meetings. Toastmasters clubs meet for a set amount of time and are committed to staying within that timeframe. “Toastmasters has shown me how to keep a meeting on task,” says Colville Toastmasters founder Troy Anderson, “so that everyone comes away without feeling frustrated from spending a lot of time and yet not making any headway.”

5. Even more skills and résumé items. Beyond communication and leadership skills, the Toastmasters program specifically targets listening, critical thinking, giving feedback, time management, planning and implementation, organization and delegation, facilitation, mentoring, motivation, and team-building. Toastmasters members can choose to undertake projects such as mounting publicity and membership campaigns, planning training programs, organizing special events, and serving as a top officer in a district comprising thousands of members.

6. Attention from employers who recognize the value of Toastmasters and sometimes favor Toastmasters members in hiring. Why Toastmasters? Because the communication, teamwork, leadership, and feedback skills that every member in every club learns are all-important in virtually any job. But probably the most important thing, is the self-confidence that Toastmasters build along the way, and which affects every aspect of our lives.

7. A way to legitimately characterize employment gaps constructively. We’ve always advised job-seekers to try to account productively for time between jobs. Sometimes, however, candidates aren’t very convincing in describing vague “consulting” or “project” work. Active Toastmasters members don’t have that problem. During an interview, both hiring managers, were concerned about this gap and asked an interviewee what she had been doing during that time. Without hesitation, she described her extensive activities in Toastmasters International the past few years. She was hired within 24 hours.

8. An inexpensive training and professional-development program. In most organizations, budgets for training and professional development were among the first line items slashed in the economic downturn. You might be willing to invest money out of pocket for such programs, but if you were to search on the Internet for programs that teach you communication, public-speaking, and leadership skills, you’d be looking to pay hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars in most cases. In contrast, the dues a member pays to belong to Toastmasters [is much less]. Your employer may even be willing to sponsor your membership. [Learn more about Toastmasters educational programs.](#)

9. Excellent networking opportunity. Toastmasters provides a fun yet constructive way to network with others who may become your career contacts. Heather O’Neill describes a Toastmasters networking experience “beyond all expectations” in [an article in *Toastmaster* magazine.](#)

10. Regular reinforcement of learning. As the Toastmasters brochure, [Clear Communication](#) points out, “When employees attend seminars, they quickly forget what they learned; when they regularly attend Toastmasters meetings, they learn skills that stay with them for a lifetime.” Toastmasters clubs meet at least monthly, with many meeting weekly or twice a month, so members continue to practice and develop skills.

Coming Events

Toastmasters Leadership Institute Training

Date: 29 Jul 2017
Time: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Location: BBVA Compass
Cost: \$15.00 per person

**Minimum of 4 Officers Required to Attend (Easy goal towards achieving Distinguished Club)
Open to all club members

Speech Contests

Please prepare for Area 61's speech contest. It would be nice to have 1 contestant per club.
(Details on date, time and location pending)

* Speech categories **Tall Tales** and **Table Topics**



July

Membership Campaign
July 6 at Hoover Library
6:00 p.m.
Hosted by Data Center & Vocalizers Toastmasters Clubs

July 13 - Data Center Club meetings will start at 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm (Mentors or other administrative collaborations can still arrange to meet between 5 pm and 6 p.m.)

August

86th Toastmasters International Conference
August 23-26 - Vancouver, Canada

<https://www.toastmasters.org/events/2017-international-convention>

Dates to Remember



July 2017

July 4 Independence day - Fly the Flag / Honor veterans

July 13 - Data Center Club meetings will start at 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm (Mentors or other administrative collaborations can still arrange to meet between 5 pm and 6 p.m.)

July 16 National Ice Cream Day

July 19 National Hot Dog Day

July 27 Korean War ends - Fly the Flag / Honor Veterans

July 30 International Friendship Day - Invite a friend to a Toastmasters Meeting



August 2017

August 13 International Left-Handers Day

August 14 V-J Day / end of WWII - Fly the Flag / Honor Veterans

August 19 National Aviation Day

August 30 Toasted Marshmallow Day

Just
for
laughs



"I had to give a short speech last night. It was hoot!"



Show your pride with a
Toastmasters duffle bag.

Check out all apparel and gifts
Toastmasters.org/Shop/Gifts

Get your announcements or photos in the
September/ October newsletter

Send them via email to: VPPR-7864@toastmastersclubs.org

Deadline: August 25, 2017