DIVISION H HAPPENINGS Issue 11



Division H Happenings

Serving Toastmasters in Tallahassee, Quincy and Madison, FL

May 2020

PATHWAY TO LEADERSHIP AND BEYOND

IN THIS ISSUE

How to be a Global Toastmaster?

by Andy Seepaul, Division H Director

"The Internet is becoming the town square for the global village of tomorrow." Bill Gates

Covid-19 has changed our world as we know it forever: working from home has become our new normal, education at all levels has become virtual, food and grocery delivery are now routine, and Toastmasters meetings are now online until the CDC recommends it is safe for small groups to meet. Virtual meetings open up opportunities for clubs to welcome quests from across the world. In addition, professional speakers can conduct workshops around the world from the comfort of their living rooms. Many Clubs are hosting World Champions of Public Speaking, authors, and subject matter experts who conduct free workshops. I recommend participating in the S.P.E.A.K series hosted by District 102, see details on Page 6. Tom Hobbs conducted a storytelling workshop for Division H Toastmasters in April that was attended by Toastmasters as far

flung as New Zealand. Highway Safety Toastmasters hosted Rich Hopkins as part of his Zoom Challenge Tour to speak or evaluate within all 120 Districts in Toastmasters.

I have attended virtual Toastmasters meetings and workshops hosted by Clubs that meet across the USA, Thailand, Philippines, and India. You can find out about the next club meeting or workshop from Facebook pages that collate and curate this information, for example, the Resources for

<u>Toastmasters</u> Facebook page has been my primary resource for virtual meetings across the world.

Technology has connected the world and made it smaller allowing us to communicate across borders and boundaries, making the world a global village. My challenge to our readers is to visit at least three clubs outside the US and file Club Ambassador Reports.



Bargain of the Century

Distinguished Toastmaster Ashok Shahane shares how Toastmasters has aided his personal and professional success. Page 4



Listen to Speak Effectively

Toastmaster Jesinia Jackson-Graves examines the importance of active listening to effective speaking. Page 6



Educational Minute in Focus

What is the educational minute? What subject should be discussed? Page 8

2020-2021 Division H Leadership Team Announced

The current Division H Leadership Team is thrilled to congratulate Division H Director-elect Bobby Blackmon and his team of Area Directors who will serve as the leadership team beginning July 1st 2020. Our five Area Directors are:

Area 8o - Quinazett Bryant

Area 81 - Sue Leitholf

Area 82 – Derek Bell

Area 83 – ABM Uddin

Area 84 – Earl Pearson

As Division H Director, Bobby will lead and support our division through the supervision and support of our five area directors. One of his primary goals as division director is to ensure that each club achieves its mission and fulfills its responsibilities to its members.

Our Area Directors are the information conduit between clubs and Division H and District 84 leadership. Our Area Directors will help our clubs meet their mission of helping members grow by serving as resources.

We will be featuring our new leadership team in the June edition of Division H Happenings.

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Photo and Graphic Credits: Page 1 (Socially Loved; https://www.flickr.com/photos/25552033@No6/5318509423/), Page 4 (Ashok Shashane), Page 5 (Felicia Shorter), Page 6 (https://tmd29.org/it-is-not-too-late-to-beat-the-clock/), Pages 14 (Aakeem Bennett)

Layout and photos by Ramdeo Seepaul.

Edited by DTM Vickie Goodman.

Email your articles, photos and comments to ramdeo_seepaul@yahoo.com

From Toastmasters International May 2020 Leader Letter

Online Meeting Videos

Wondering what is coming next for Pathways? Want to make sure you plan training sessions around Base Camp outages? Visit the newly created <u>Pathways Updates</u> page to keep up to date.

Online Club Fliers

Clubs are encouraged to invite members and guests to join your next online meeting! Clubs can use these <u>customizable fliers</u> to alert current and prospective members to the online details.

Updated PowerPoint Template

Toastmasters International has released a new and improved PowerPoint template to help with your presentations, speeches, and events. You can find it here among TI's updated stationery templates.

Wear with Pride

Show the world that you're proud to be a Toastmaster! Save 20% on Where Leaders Are Made, Pathways, and Vintage Logo T-Shirts when you visit the Toastmasters Online Store and use promo code TIPROUD! Offer valid May 1-31, 2020. Not valid with any other offer.

FOURTH QUARTER TRAVEL PLANS

April to June 2020

- Conduct the Moments of Truth Assessment
- Hold Club Executive Council Meeting
- Plan Open House Beat The Clock (May – June)
- Complete Two More Educational Goals
- Hold Club Officer Elections
- Submit New Officer List by June 30th, 2020





CLUB CORNER

Even Online - Clubs Can Have a Distinguished Year!

by Vickie Goodman, DTM, Area 81 Director

Need more members? What club doesn't?

Online meetings are perfect for inviting guests from all over. Think about it – guests don't have to drive, get directions, or even get overly dressed. Talk up the value of Toastmasters to everyone on your contact list: your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors...no matter where they live. Invite them to hear your next speech, or enjoy your next program. Online attendance is a great way to get folks excited and interested in Toastmasters and, believe it or not, they will be interested in joining-just be sure to ask them. It looks like online meetings are here through the summer, so new members can join with the prorated amount through September. When things open up, they can come to your club meeting or transfer their membership to a club in their area. Remember – it never hurts to ask! Start inviting people.

Maintain your own membership by paying your dues!

Toastmasters International has extended the membership renewal to June 30th and you surely don't want to lose your good standing with your club. Contact your club treasurer or other officer to provide your credit/debit card info for online renewal. This is particularly important to small clubs – they need a minimum of EIGHT MEMBERS to renew by the deadline. What? You missed the deadline? Go ahead and renew anyway – it's never too late to help yourself and your club.

Finish those projects!

Online is the perfect time to complete those educational goals! Members are traveling the world and attending clubs throughout Florida, the country, and the world through online meetings. Most clubs are delighted to offer a member from another area a speaking position and will assign an evaluator so you can complete a lot of projects in very little time. Check out our own Division H meeting links in this newsletter. Believe me, any of those clubs will be happy to have you attend. Search the TM website or do a google search to locate clubs meeting around the world. It's educational AND FUN!

Learn to Speak, Listen and Think Better With Toastmasters

by Ashok N. Shahane, DTM. This article was originally published in the April 7, 2020 edition of the Tallahassee Democrat.

Picture a young, hard-working foreign graduate student (age 28 with an accent) at a large university in New England. He diligently produced a massive dissertation of over 560 pages. Not only was his principal adviser impressed with his work, but he also announced that it was the thickest dissertation ever written and completed at this University in just two years.

After completing his Ph.D., the young man began working as an Environmental Systems Engineer in South Florida.

However, his adviser encouraged him to apply to Yale University for a position as Assistant Professor in Forest Hydrology. He was delighted to be invited for an interview and spent two days being interviewed and offering presentations to 24 faculty professors and students. Unfortunately, and sadly, he did not get the job — he knew his verbal communication skills were poor, and because of this, others were not able to appreciate his expertise.

Fast forward three years and the young man has developed a comprehensive and innovative computerized mathematical model for the elaborate water system extending from Orlando to Lake Okeechobee in Central and Southern Florida. The Chief Engineer of the organization, where he works, invites the young man to present his work at a major professional conference in Ohio.

With his youthful enthusiasm and vigor, the young man made his presentation to an audience of 500 advanced engineers from around the country. And not a single question was asked. Once again, the young man's poor verbal communication skills hampered his success. He was disappointed and dejected. How do I know? Because that young man was me. I wanted to improve, but how to do so?

A short time later, a co-worker encouraged me to join a Toastmasters Club. And there I discovered the Bargain of the Century! At weekly Toastmasters Club meetings, participants learn to give speeches (most with butterflies in the stomach at first), host the meeting as Toastmaster of the day, and learn to give evaluations of speeches.



Ashok N. Shahane

As a result, along with others, I learned to speak better, to listen better, think better, evaluate better. I learned to be a leader and manage people painlessly. Constructive evaluations helped me to conquer the fear of public speaking. I attended regularly and could tell I was improving.

A few years later, a high-level technical supervisory position was advertised in a national search for a state agency in Tallahassee. I was one of about a dozen finalists selected for the interview among the applicants from many other states. I was selected and offered this job.

The Chairman of the Selection Committee commented that just five years of participation in Toastmasters made a difference in helping me secure this job. I just completed 36 years of productive and satisfying employment with this agency as a technical expert in the environmental field.

When we see a bargain at the supermarket, we tell everyone so they can take advantage of the bargain. Here we are talking about "The Bargain of the Century."

I encourage any of you who want to become better speakers and leaders to visit a Toastmasters club or two, find out more, and take advantage of this great experience. Improved communication benefits all and makes this great nation better.

From Toastmasters International May 2020 Leader Letter

Online Meeting Videos

Toastmasters International created three new videos to help clubs transition to online meetings. Keep Your Club on Track with Online Meetings, Successfully Filling Online Meeting Roles, and 7 Tips for Attending Online Meetings are great tools to help find success during these challenging times. Visit the Online Meetings webpage, watch the videos, and share them with your club's members! If your club has members who are hesitant to attend online meetings or you have friends or family that may be interested in Toastmasters, ask them to watch this video.

Do you have questions about using Zoom for a Toastmasters' meeting or want to share a PowerPoint for a speech?

Do you want to learn some cool features in Zoom, such as creating polls, adding virtual backgrounds or changing the view?

Did you know that you can host a brainstorming session for your club or executive team using Zoom?

Join Felicia for a "drop in" training session to learn more about Zoom!



Wed, June 3 (7:30 - 9 pm)
-or-

Thur, June 11 (7:30 - 9 pm)

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85287131579

Active Listening is Essential to Effective Speaking

by Jesinia Jackson-Graves, Seven Hills Expressions Toastmaster



Listening is an action; it is something we do consciously. We have heard phrases like: "You never listen to me!"; "You hear only what you want to hear."; "You listen but you don't hear or listen!"

Jesinia Jackson-Graves

Kin Hubbard, an American cartoonist and journalist name declared that "Listening, is essential to your effectiveness as a speaker."

To be effective as a speaker, we must take feedback from the audience, which requires active listening to improve our presentations the next time you speak.

Good listening should not be limited to our managers; we should open our ears and minds to our friends, family, significant others, new people in our lives, and even ourselves.

Being a good listener encourages the speaker to feel valued. We need to consider the speaker's intentions and feelings without immediately injecting our own opinions. A good listener shows good eye contact, reflects what was stated, validates both the speaker's and listener's emotions.

Why is listening important? Good listening demonstrates we are paying attention to the thoughts, feelings, and showing consideration by taking take time to focus on what others are saying.

When we want to make sure others are listening when we speak, we may insert phrases that specifically give that message to the other person. We may use phrases like, "Listen, I was wondering if you eat breakfast every morning?" or Nina, you wanted to tell me something? I'm all ears! Adding the phrase "I'm all ears" tells the person you're ready to listen carefully to what they're saying.

Keep in mind, listening is an action. It's something we do consciously. Keeping our ears and minds open to listening encourages the speaker to feel valued.







SPEAKER 1 **LUISA MONTALVO** 2nd Place of World Championship of Public Speaking,

14TH MAY 2020 | 8 PM



SPEAKER 3 SARAH KHAN Speaker | Advocate |

13TH JUNE 2020 | 6 PM



SPEAKER 5 AARON BEVERLY World Champion Of Public Speaking, 2019

27™ JUNE 2020 | 8 PM



SPEAKER 2 PRES VASILEV World Champion Of Public Speaking,

23RD MAY 2020 | 10 AM



SUBBI MATHUR Ph.D. | DTM | PRA Region 8 Advisor 2015-17, Toastmasters

20™ JUNE 2020 | 8 PM



Jointly Organized by Organizing Chair

Click Here for Previous Editions of Division H Happenings

ASK DR. LEX

Keeping Online Meetings Professional

by Dr. Lex I. Con

Dear Dr. Lex,

This onslaught of new online meetings is great! Except for those of us with less experience, some suggestions would be helpful. And a dose of decorum.

It appears some of us are becoming a little too relaxed. During our last meeting, a member showed up on camera in his pajamas complete with a Bugs Bunny print! I'm not here to tell someone what to wear in their own home but, come on, Bugs Bunny PJs are not becoming on a grown man; and during a Toastmasters meeting, for Pete's sake! If you must, keep it behind closed doors. We're Toastmasters — professional and dignified.

I know they say a man's home is his castle. However, when ye royal highness has "guests" invited into his "electronic castle", one should use some discretion, don't you think?

Hey, What's Up Doc?

Dear Doc,

One must admit, there's nothing more comfortable than slipping into pajamas after a hard day's work. However, I think your member broke the unspoken rule on proper attire. I suggest you ask the club president to remind everyone they are on camera and to dress accordingly. Meanwhile, who's up for some cartoons?!

Dr. Lex •

PATHWAYS WEBINARS

Join District 84 for Upcoming Pathways Webinars

7pm Navigating Pathways:

https://zoom.us/j/407971151

7:30pm Pathways – Beyond Level 1:

https://zoom.us/i/113210067

8pm Pathways – Base Camp Managers:

https://zoom.us/i/813717629

Tuesday Sunday
June 9th June 28th



Dear Dr. Lex,

We had an unusual meeting last week. With online meetings being common now, instead of having "Invite a Guest", we celebrated our pets by having "Invite Your Pet". Because we can't bring our pets to a regular meeting, someone said, "Why not?" Susan was introducing her beloved Siamese cat, Fluffy. The feline must have gotten too close to the webcam. Suddenly Floyd's Schnauzer, Butterball, lunged at the screen, barking like a pack of hyenas! The abruptness of it all caused Fluffy to fly up and over Susan's head, sending her shrieking. All we could hear at this point was a cacophony of howling, barking and hissing as the other pets joined in the online skirmish.

It was a disaster.

I'm all for "theme" meetings and "trying new things". Don't you think it usually pays to stick with the basics?

No Pets and Toastmasters for Me

Dear No Pets,

Your club brought new meaning to having "fun meetings". Yes, I think Toastmasters meetings are not an appropriate place for pets. However, I do applaud your club for trying something new. Keep it up. Your members will enjoy the variety in the long run.

Dr. Lex ■

Dr. Alexa Isabel Con is an aspiring syndicated columnist. According to her critics, she is not quite ready for widespread distribution. Please submit your questions to Dr. Lex at askdrlex@gmail.com.

Educational Moment on the Educational Minute

Source: http://karenstorey.com/PATHWAYS/16-EducationalMinute.htm

Does your club go through the same routine, week after week? Want to add spark to your meetings? Then consider adding an educational minute to the agenda. There's more to Toastmasters than most of your club members are aware of - and we all know that Pathways is a new and exciting program that has a wealth of un-discovered information.

Why not schedule a one-minute educational session each meeting? Get together with all club officers and plan which topics you want for your Educational Minute - who will present and when.

Pick members who are enthusiastic and eager to learn and share and ask them to present to the club one single

aspect of Pathways. Keep it short and to the point. Don't do special presentations for 'credit' or as a speech project -but just to give more information to the group. If you keep them to a minute or so, they won't take up a speaking slot and won't add much time to the agenda, but will add significant value.

Remember, just because you know some of this information, it doesn't mean other members do. You get new members all the time - and some other members may never have been exposed to this information.

Click on this link for details on any of the topics below.

Pathways:

New Member Tutorial Meeting Roles Core Competencies The Five Levels Base Camp All 63 Projects Site Map Getting Started in Pathways Distinguished Club Program **Pathways Pointers** Pathways Grouped by Skill Learned **Level Completion Checklist** Pathways Pocket Guide Pathways Progress Chart Evaluation forms for all 63 projects Pathways abbreviations The Navigator Club Officer involvement in **Pathways** All eleven paths - expanded All paths in Pathways

Outside the Club:

What does an Area Director do?

What does the Division Director do?

What about these district positions: District Director, Public Relations Officer, Administrative Manager, Finance Manager, Club Growth Director, Club Quality Director? When and How to Rebuild a Club. What's Speechcraft all about? Tell me about the Youth Leadership Program. The Brand Manual Brand and Trademark Standards What does the District Marketing Team What are the different Speech Contests? Who's on the Board of Directors? What's Toastmasters Strategic Plan? What are the International Leadership Roles? What is Toastmaster's Mission? Service to Members chart What's a Club Coach? What is the Leader Letter?

Inside the Club:

Icebreaker Ideas

What is the Toastmasters Promise? A Toastmaster Wears Many Hats Meeting Roles Member Interest Survey (What are your members' goals?) How do I become a Distinguished Toastmaster? The DTM Project High Performance Leadership (HPL) Club Officer Roles Tips on Being a Successful Club Officer What is the Interpersonal Communication Program? What are Moments of Truth? Websites, Business Cards, Logos, **Templates** Speech Contest Tutorials, including the Contest Rulebook **Public Speaking Tips** The DTM Project The Toastmasters Video Library The Resource Library TM Magazine Article Index



JUNE 7TH





Hosted by:
Podemos Hablar, Capital City, Early Bird, Crossway,
Tallahassee, and PMI Toastmasters clubs
Via Zoom

5 Speakers, 5 Evaluators

Sunday, June 7, 2020 3:00pm-5:00pm EDT

Do you have a speech that you want to complete before the end of the Toastmasters year? Are you interested in practicing your evaluation skills? Then this virtual event is for you!

To apply to be a speaker or an evaluator, please complete the form below.

HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/201214957021142





Extension of Deadlines

- Members may submit for their ALS or DTM award in the traditional program through June 30, 2021
- No other awards in the traditional education program will be accepted beyond June 30, 2020
- The ALS award will not count for credit toward the education goals in the Distinguished Club Program for the 2020–2021 program year, but the DTM award, whether achieved through Pathways or the traditional education program, will count for credit
- The club coach provision will be extended through June 30, 2021

Recognizing Excellence

CONGRATULATIONS to all Division H Toastmasters who achieved one or more educational or leadership award (s) in the legacy program or Pathways Education in Division H from April 25 to May 25, 2020. Bobby Blackmon, Rauha Jessup, Joseph Dertien, Robin Collins, Denise Purvis, and Vickie Goodman received five or more awards each. Early Bird Toastmasters received 18% or 28 of the 155 awards received in Division H. Members with "name unavailable" are not reflected in this report. All educational achievements for the current year can be viewed at https://cutt.ly/bypYLKS.

Name	Educational Awards (April 25 — May 25, 2020)		
Bryant, Quinazett V.	PM4		
Collins, Robin F.	VC4		
Conrad, Allyssa	CL		
Dertien, Joseph T.	CC, CL		
Hall, Lenvard W.	ACB		
Jessup, Rauha I.	DL ₃		
Leitholf, Sue	PM1		
Lockley, Tamara	ACB		
McDaniel, Lei	CC		
McGrotha, Beth	ACS, ALS, LDREXC		
Mettupalli, Dastagiri C.	ACG		
Myers, Trevor J.	IP1		
Pileggi, Susan	ACB		
Seepaul, Ramdeo	ACG		

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Early Bird Club	28
Driven by Destiny	23
Podemos Hablar	21
Tallahassee Real Talkers	12
Talk of Tallahassee	10
Leadership	9
PMI Tallahassee	7
Seminole	7
CrossWay	6
Mad Talkers	6
Southwood	6
Garnet & Gold	5
Seven Hills Expressions	4
Capital City	3
FDLE	3
Highway Safety	2
Tallahassee	2
FSLSO	1

Education Awards Key					
CL	Competent Leader				
ALB	Advanced Leader Bronze				
ALS	Advanced Leader Silver				
LDREXC	High Performance Leadership				
DTM	Distinguished Toastmaster				
CC	Competent Communicator				
ACB	Advanced Communicator Bronze				
ACS	Advanced Communicator Silver				
ACG	Advanced Communicator Gold				
TC	Team Collaboration				
SR	Strategic Relationships				
IP	Innovative Planning				
EC	Effective Coaching				
LD	Leadership Development				
MS	Motivational Strategies				
PM	Presentation Mastery				
DL	Dynamic Leadership				
PI	Persuasive Influence				
VC	Visionary Communication				
EH	Engaging Humor				
1, 2, 3, 4,5	Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5				
PWMENTORPGM Pathways Mentor Program					

Toastmasters with 4 or more awards since July 1 2019				
Name	Number of awards			
Blackmon, Walter	14			
Jessup, Rauha I.	7			
Dertien, Joseph T.	6			
Collins, Robin F.	5			
Goodman, Vickie J.	5			
Purvis, Denise	5			
Bryant, Quinazett V.	4			
Darling, Gloria M.	4			

- Podemos Hablar Toastmasters Club continues to lead District 84 as the club with the highest education awards per July 1 base membership. Eight members accomplished 23 awards as of May25, 2020.
- Triple Crown Recipients (Members Earning Three or More Education Awards)
 Walter Blackmon, Rauha Jessup, Joseph Dertien, Robin Collins, Vickie Goodman, Denise Purvis, Quinazett Bryant, Gloria Darling, Sue Leitholf, Beth McGrotha, Dastagiri Mettupalli, Earl Pearson, Ashok Shahane, and Yvonne Smart

DIVISION H CLUB'S ONLINE MEETING SCHEDULE

- Join by computer, phone or tablet: click on club name or zoom link or enter the meeting ID
- Join by phone: dial 646 876 9923 and enter the meeting ID

Area	Club	Meeting Day	Time	Zoom Link	Meeting ID
84	<u>Leadership</u>	Mon	12:00 PM	https://zoom.us/j/287088817	287-088-817
84	PMI Tallahassee	Mon	5:00 PM	https://zoom.us/j/440366474	440-366-474
82	<u>Podemos Hablar</u>	Mon	6:30 PM	https://zoom.us/j/782976674	782-976-674
83	Garnet & Gold	Tue	11:00 AM	https://zoom.us/j/115385496 *	115-385-496
83	<u>Tallahassee</u>	Tue	12:00 PM	**	
80	<u>Uptown</u>	2nd and 4thTue	12:00 PM	https://zoom.us/j/850323799	850-323-799
82	<u>Highway Safety</u>	Tue	12:05 PM	https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/712931572	712-931-572
80	<u>Seminole</u>	Tue	6:30 PM	https://zoom.us/j/371523144	371-523-144
80	Talk of Tallahassee	Wed	12:00 PM	https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/107133547	107-133-547
82/84	FDLE - Southwood Combined Meeting	Wed	12:00 PM	https://zoom.us/j/800773323	800-773-323
80/81	<u>Seven Hills Expressions</u> - <u>CrossWay</u> Combined Meeting	Wed	5:40 PM	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/237632701	237-632-701
83/83	Capital City - DFS Combined Meeting	Thu	12:00 PM	https://zoom.us/j/354083370	354-083-370
81	Mad Talkers	2nd, 3rd & 4th Fri	12:00 PM	https://zoom.us/j/95726250698	957-2625-0698
81	<u>Tallahassee Real Talkers</u>	Fri	1:00 PM	https://zoom.us/j/903848017	903-848-017
82	Early Bird	Sat	8:15 AM	https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/148166640	148-166-640

- Clubs are sorted by meeting day and time
- *Contact Aakeem Bennett (bennettaakeem@gmail.com) for meeting password
- ** Contact Sid Kamath (spkamath@comcast.net) for meeting details



A Toastmaster Wears Many Hats. Toastmasters serve as speakers, evaluators or fulfill any other ancillary roles during a club meeting. Leadership Toastmasters literally wore many hats as part of a themed virtual meeting on May 18, 2020. PC: Aakeem Bennett



Breaking Barriers in Communication

Joining a
Toastmaster
meeting is now a
click away!!

Stay connected with us on:

