



The Speaker's Voice

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

JEFF MASON, DTM - District Governor

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O F F I C E R S

- **District Governor:**
Jeff Mason
- **Lt. Governor**
Education & Training:
Bryan Holt
- **Lt. Governor Marketing:**
Sharon Johnson
- **Immediate Past District Governor:**
Doris Bentley

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You had to have been there... At the Fall Conference that is... to really appreciate how good it was. Everyone there will tell you the facility was great. It felt secluded, but still had all the shopping and restaurants you could want within less than 5 minutes. If you registered early you may have had one of the rooms with a balcony that looked out over the gulf course and opened up to a beautiful sunrise and sunset.

Friday night was a great talent show with everything from a stuffed dog being serenaded with operatic singing to a very exotic peacock dance, intermingled with some comedy and singing.

Saturday began with a great opening ceremony with the Prattville JROTC presenting the colors, a large number of clubs represented by the parade of banners, followed by great breakout sessions and topping off the morning with a wonderfully inspirational and educational session by 2002 World Champion of Public Speaking, Dwayne Smith.

Then of course we had the District Table Topics Contest led by Lt Governor Marketing Sharon Johnson and the Humorous Speech Contest led by DeWayne Williams. Our first meal event was the Hall of Fame where almost everyone was recognized for their achievements, from Competent Communicator to Distinguished Toastmaster. Not just those who had made achievements last year, but we also had a few special awards for those who have made outstanding contributions already this year. One of my most fun activities was recognizing the contributions, dedication, and never ending commitment of Carroll Puckett who served in every role in the district and achieved 12 DTMs over his past 45 years in Toastmasters.

Oh yes, the door prizes... all kinds of gifts donated to our members, candy, certificates, portraits by members of our district and baskets donated by our clubs! And the 50/50...for those who were not there, that's where you can buy a ticket and win half the money collected from the ticket sales. The winner at this conference won \$90.00.

To everyone who attended, and to everyone who served on a committee or just jumped in to help, "THANK YOU!" it would not have been a success without you. Yes... as I said YOU should have been there! Hope to see you at the next one.



BRYAN HOLT, DTM — Lieutenant Governor, Education and Training

THE FALL CONFERENCE - A ROUSING SUCCESS

As Toastmasters, you've already made a big commitment to yourself and your fellow members. Your district officers stand ready to help and extend their personal invitation to assist you with your questions, issues, and concerns for the Toastmaster year!

I want to also thank those individuals who took the time from your busy schedules to attend the District 77 Fall Conference. It was an excellent opportunity to meet your friends, make new friends, to learn more about Toastmasters and what it offers. While attending the conference, members had a chance to network with fellow toastmasters and cultivate ideas to take back to their home clubs.

At our home clubs, you can also help achieve our District Educational Goals by helping members achieve their CCs, CLs, and ACs. Specifically, we are asking each Area to achieve two CCs/CLs and two ACs each month. This will help achieve the District's goals.

The conference was also an excellent opportunity to receive great training to enhance your communication and leadership skills. It provided an opportunity for the District leaders to get your direct feedback concerning your issues, interests and questions.

Let me also thank our many participants in the District Talent Contest, the Table Topics Contest and the Humorous Speech Contest. As you know, Toastmasters would not be a success unless there are people willing to step up to the plate and put themselves out there. I want to also thank our outstanding presenters/speakers including 2002 World Champion Speaker Dwayne Smith.

Finally, I salute our Conference Chairs Charles Lawler and Charmaine Chartier, each conference committee chair and many volunteers who did an outstanding job preparing for the conference.

It was a great Fall Conference !!



SHARON JOHNSON — Lieutenant Governor of Marketing



BOARD TOPICS CONTEST:

At the conference there was a BOARD TOPICS CONTEST. A take off of table topics, conference attendees drew a topic from the basket, wrote their answer on the slip of paper and posted it to the bulletin board. Winners were chosen by random drawing. Top prize was an autographed copy of the book "My Life is Just Speech Material... and, So is Yours" by Tammy A Miller, MA, DTM. Winner of this great book was Beverly Carter from CAVHCS West, Div B. Other names drawn were and they won for stress balls. These winners were Cheryl Williams, no club listed; Veronica Hudson, Saraland Toastmasters; and Rachel Rachielles, Vestavia Toastmasters. Another special prize was "Detour to Destiny" donated by the author Mamie Harris (Mrs. Dwayne Smith) and was won by Dianna Van Horn, Emerald Coast.

UPCOMING CONTESTS ANNOUNCEMENT:

There will be upcoming membership building contest— stay tuned to your Newsletters for details.

CONTEST WINNERS



1st Place
Springna Zhao, Maxwell Club 1153, Area 11, Div C

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2nd Place
Sharon Johnson, Emerald Coast Club, Area 18, Div E

TABLETOPICS CONTEST



1st Place Vanessa Falls, Div B
2nd Place Bruce Pieper, Div A
3rd Place Chris Williams, Div D

HUMOROUS CONTEST

Division Governor Jeff Mason and Contest Master DeWayne Williams give awards to winners



1st Place—Rodney Grady, Div A



2nd Place—Carlos Carey, Div E



3rd Place—Hershell Hill, Div D



A STORY WORTH TELLING

Katie Nelson is someone who made a difference — she set an example that epitomizes what Toastmasters aim to achieve. You, too, can make a difference and be an advertisement for the organization by being visible and showing off Toastmasters — Talk it Up.

In the Spring of 2009, while a member of Hilltoppers Toastmasters Club in Mobile, Katie interviewed for a job at Computer Programs and Systems, Inc. (CPSI). As part of her interview, she was asked to make a speech to a panel — it was about Toastmasters. The interviewers were so impressed that they requested more information about the organization and indicated they were interested in starting a club. That new club chartered October 1st with 22 members.

Although Katie accepted a job in Birmingham and is no longer a member of Hilltoppers, District 77 recognizes Katie for playing a significant role in bringing a Toastmasters awareness to CPSI and its employees. She exemplifies what we always talk about in Toastmasters: telling others about the great opportunities it has to offer.

NEWS & KUDOS

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Congratulations to the Alabama State University (ASU) Toastmasters, Club 1314919. Their charter presentation ceremony was 7 October. The club charter certificate was presented to the club president, TM Erica Hunter, by club sponsor ACS/ALS Alan D. Shotwell. The individual charter member certificates, club banner and other sundries were presented by club sponsor and LG&T DTM Bryan A. Holt. Also in attendance was club mentor and District Treasure ACB/CL Trey Henderson. ASU Toastmasters is in Area II, Division C.

Division B News: Conducted its Table Topics and Humorous Speech Contests on Tuesday September 29. There were 5 contestants in each contest, representing the 5 areas in Division B. Contest Master Ted Gaston of the Power Speakers Clubs in Area 8 did a good job facilitating the contest and managed to finish the contest in a very reasonable timeframe. All the contestants did a fantastic job and attendees found the contests worthwhile. The contest winners were:

Table Topics Winner: Vanessa Falls of Sixth Avenue Toastmasters, Area 4
Table Topics Runner Up: Hattie Smith of Reddy Talkers, Area 5

Humorous Speech Contest Winner: Bob Woolverton of Protective Pacesetters, Area 6

Humorous Speech Contest Runner Up: Bernadette Payne of VA Voices, Area 5

Division B also awarded its "Jump Start Contest" awards at the Division B Table Topics & Humorous Speech Contests. This award was given to the 2 clubs in Division B who had achieved the most educational awards since July 1. The winners were Magic City Toastmasters and Circle of Champions. Each club received a \$10 gift certificate to the TI Store.



Thomas Mosley's Twins:

Amira Jai' and Nathan Josef
Data Center Toastmasters, club 7864
Sixth Avenue, club 1235772
Circle of Champions, club 1325394

Congratulations— Educational Achievements, September 09

Award	Member Name	Club Name	City
ACB	Berendt, Adam	Power Speakers Toastmasters Club	Birmingham
ACB	Van Horn, Dianna	Emerald Coast Club	Eglin Air Force Base
ACB	Banks, Thomas	Data Center Toastmasters Club	Birmingham
ACS	Doggett, Donald W.	Laurel Toastmasters Club	Laurel
ALS	Shotwell, Alan D.	Montgomery Toastmasters	Montgomery
CC	McMichael, Diane	VA Gulf Coast's Club	Biloxi
CC	Fredrickson, Barry	Downtown Club	Mobile
CC	Horrocks, Tyson S.	TBE Nooners Club	Huntsville
CC	Thomas, Jack	Talk of the Town Toastmasters Club	Opelika
CC	McShannon, Casey	Downtown Club	Pensacola
CC	Maxwell, Sylvia R.	Ellyson Park Toastmasters Club	Pensacola
CC	Diaz, Marcos Antonio	Emerald Coast Club	Eglin Air Force Base
CC	Walko, Sean	Emerald Coast Club	Eglin Air Force Base
CC	Rhinehart Rebecca.	Laurel Toastmasters Club	Laurel
CL	Johnson, Lois	Landrum Companies Toastmasters Club	Pensacola
CL	Bryars Deborah Ann	Bay Way Toastmasters Club	Mobile
CL	Vickers, Sally	Gulf Breeze Toastmasters	Gulf Breeze
LDREXC	Wilson, David B.	Magic City Toastmasters Club	Birmingham
PALS	Wilson, David B.	Magic City Toastmasters Club	*Award Pending, Member contacted by WHQ*
PDTM	Wilson, David B.	Magic City Toastmasters Club	*Award Pending, Member contacted by WHQ*



Congratulations— Educational Achievements, October 09

Award	Member Name	Club Name	City
ACB	Jennings, Rebecca E.	Magic City Toastmasters Club	Birmingham
ACB	Whalen, Grace	Landrum Companies Toastmasters Club	Pensacola
ACG	Johnson, Sharon K.	Emerald Coast Club	Eglin Air Force Base
ALS	Powell, Timothy A.	Mason-Dixon Club	Huntsville
CC	Tinkel, Jeremy V.	Landrum Companies Toastmasters Club	Pensacola
CC	Peppler, Charles	Western Gate Toastmasters	Pensacola
CC	Bogan, Mary Ellen	Gulf Breeze Toastmasters	Gulf Breeze
CC	Hendrick, Bart L.	Redstone Club	Huntsville
CC	Wang, Caroline K.	Mason-Dixon Club	Huntsville
CC	Kidd, Judith A	Early Birds Toastmasters Club	Birmingham
CC	Warren, Donald S	Research Park Club	Huntsville
CL	Tarver, Marvin Anthony	Social Voices Toastmasters Club	Birmingham
CL	McCaig, David	Gulf Breeze Toastmasters	Gulf Breeze
DTM	Powell, Timothy A.	Mason-Dixon Club	Huntsville

