

“WHAT’S GREAT IN 598”

The Diablo Toastmasters Club is a community Toastmasters Club that meets every Thursday at 7 PM in the Sizzler Restaurant, 1353 Willow Pass Road, Concord, CA.

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The mission of a Toastmasters Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

<p>Sept. 4, 2008 – Diablo 598 Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contests Sept. 20, 2008 – D57 Exec. Committee Mtg. Bayfair Lucky’s Supermarket Sept. 23, 2008 – Area 6 Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contests Nov. 15, 2008 – D57 Fall Conference</p>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

Mike Chong joined the club on July 17, 2008. Welcome **Mike** and help him get off to a fast start with his Toastmasters adventure.

Colin Scott joined the club on July 31, 2008. Welcome **Colin** and get him involved in the Toastmasters program.

Mike Daley joined the club on August 14, 2008. Welcome **Mike** and help get him oriented to our program.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Alice Tsai, our President, who has earned her Advanced Communicator – Bronze Award. Good work, **Alice!**

MORE CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Christine Riley who has earned her Competent Communicator Award. Way to go, **Christine!**

PRESIDENT’S CORNER:

Get Set – Speak! **CONTEST TIME!**

Calling all members! It’s contest season! On **Thursday, September 4**, we will have our club Evaluation & Humorous Speech contests. This event is always a treat to watch as members who have honed their skills bring their best games forward.

If you haven’t competed before, don’t fret. It’s an experience that will take you to the next level! The winners will represent 598 at the Area 6 contest on September 23.

If you want to compete in either category, please let me know ASAP. I also need volunteers for Toastmaster, Timer (2), and Vote Counter (1).

I know we’ll have an exciting contest so mark your calendars!

Alice Tsai, President

598 PROVIDES D57 LEADERS

Three more of our members have answered the call for district leadership. Our President, **Alice Tsai**, is the Area 12 Governor, **Rosa Lynn Adams** has taken the Area 7 Governor position and **Louis Stifter** has stepped in as Area 6 Governor.

District 57 Governor, **Ashley Harkness**, reports that with **Carie Featherstone** as Division B Governor and **Ron Jue** as Area 23 Governor, **598** provides about 15% of the district executive leadership team.

CLOSE THE DEAL!

Data provided by our VPPR indicates our rate of converting prospects into members is about 21%. Let's turn up the wick, meet our guests and sell them on our program.

MEMBERSHIP BUILDING

The **Smedley Award** membership-building contest began on August 1st and runs through September 30th. If the club registers 5 new, dual, or reinstated members we receive a banner ribbon and a selection from the educational series offered by Toastmasters International.

There is also individual recognition! On the membership application there is a section where the new, dual, or reinstated member sponsor is identified. Always complete this section! Toastmasters International records this information and if you sponsor five new members you receive a unique pin for your efforts. Sponsor ten (10) members and you receive a Silver Star pin. Sponsor 15 new members and you receive an official TM necktie or scarf.

The new members recruited are counted toward our DCP goals.

Remember - **you**, the members, are the membership program. Invite all those you know who could benefit from our program.

Feature Article

SUMMER SOIREE SUCCESS

By Alice Tsai

It's that time of the year again. The temperature is scorching, the days are longer, the kids are out of school and people go on exotic vacations. What better time to have our annual summer party!! This year, **Carol Sturman** and her husband graciously opened their home for our club to have the party there again.

Everyone brought dishes of his or her choice. We had a variety of salads, deserts galore, and hot chili. Wine and sodas flowed continuously. Shags manned the grill and cooked up some tender and delicious chicken and steaks.



What's cookin', Shags?

After dinner **Pat Welsh** won the Closest-to-the-pin golfing contest with a shot that left her with a ten footer for birdie. It was no contest! **Pat** was the only one on the green! The rest of the contestants found the sand trap, the cart path and/or the wilderness. **Pat** then selected driver and hit a strong shot that bounced on the edge of the cup, popped out, and then went down.

While her technique was somewhat unorthodox, the shot was well played.

Congratulations **Pat!**



Jokers are wild, right, Bill?

Then, we held our infamous joke contest. We had 6 contestants: **Lou Stifter, Steven Shagrin, Denise Kalm, Ron Jue, Pat Welsh**, and yours truly. I don't recall all the jokes exactly but to my surprise, I won so I will share my joke with you:

A man is stranded on a desert island all alone for ten years. He sees a speck on the horizon and thinks to himself, "It's not a ship." The speck gets a little closer and he thinks, "It's not a boat." The speck gets even closer and he thinks, "It's not a raft." Then, out of the surf comes this gorgeous blonde woman wearing a wet suit and scuba gear. She comes up to the guy and says, "How long has it been since you had a cigarette?"

She reaches over and unzips a waterproof pocket on her left sleeve and pulls out a pack of fresh cigarettes.

He takes one, lights it, takes a long drag, and says, "Man is that good!"

Then she asks, "How long has it been since you had a drink of whiskey?"

He replies, "Ten years!"

She unzips a waterproof pocket on her right sleeve, pulls out a flask, and gives it to him.

He takes a long swig and says, "Wow, that's fantastic!"

Then she starts unzipping a longer zipper that runs down the front of her wet suit and says, "And how long has it been since you've had some real fun?"

And the man says, "Wow! Don't tell me you've got golf clubs in there!"

There you have it. The party was an all around fun evening. The weather was great; food was fantastic, and the company, second to none. If you missed this year, we hope you will join us next year! Cheers!

SPEAK AT ANOTHER CLUB

Division B Governor, **Carie Featherstone**, announced there are advanced speaking opportunities at the AdPro Toastmasters Club. This club meets on Monday evenings at Aegis on Clayton Road in Concord. See Governor Featherstone for further details.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Those are the facts -- I can't fake it: If you want the news, ya gotta make it!

Happy Toastmastering! **Editor**

HAVE A STORY? HAVE AN IDEA?

The editor invites our members to share their Toastmasters story with their peers. To be considered for publication, articles must be well written, must be related to Toastmasters activities, and submitted in *Word* format. The editor reserves the right to accept or reject all submissions.

<p>"What's Great in 598" is the publication of Diablo Toastmasters Club (598-57), Concord, CA Publisher, Alice Tsai Editor, Louis Stifter Reporter, Alice Tsai Reporter, Your name here</p>
