



# DIABLO 598 Club Newsletter

Thursday, 7-9pm  
Denny's  
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Concord, CA 94520



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## Mid-Year Happenings In & Around 598

### Inside This Issue

- 1 Mid-Year Happenings In & Around 598
- 1 First-Time Attendee Experience at Conference
- 3 Toastmasters Leadership Institute
- 3 Pathways Experience
- 4 Member Profile
- 5 Message from the President
- 6 New Members & Anniversaries
- 6 Upcoming Events

Wow! We continue to have a slew of activity at Diablo 598!

Our club continues to grow with new members (Welcome!) who are motivated, stepping up for roles and participating to increase Public Speaking, Leadership and Communication skills. Our club is a vibrant atmosphere with fun and laughter every night we meet. This is our goal so that all receive support as they continue on their Toastmasters journey.

At the District level, several of our members are involved to enrich and expand their Toastmasters experience. We encourage all members to go beyond the club and have an opportunity to see the larger Toastmasters community plus the educational opportunities available.

We've also had a change in our Executive Committee with recent elections. Rotating leadership allows for more members to participate and contribute to the club. Congratulations to the newly elected committee who will be inducted in mid-July.

And lastly, our very own Summer Picnic is just around the corner. Yearly, we gather in a more informal setting to spend time together! All members, family and friends are invited.

## First-Time Attendee Experience at District 57 Annual Conference

On May 11, 2019, I attended my very first Toastmasters District 57 Annual Conference at the Roundhouse Market & Conference Center in San Ramon.

Upon learning that the theme for this year's conference was "Speak up, Lead Well, Make a Difference!" I was immediately intrigued. But what really sealed the deal for me to attend this conference was when Rose Falgout, VP Public Relations of Diablo Toastmasters Club 598, made an announcement during one of our meetings that the keynote speaker was going to be the reigning World Champion of Public Speaking. Well, let me tell you that as soon as I got home, I did a goggle search on Ramona J. Smith, listened to her winning speech, and immediately purchased my ticket!



*Tyler Vivian, Lydia Ramirez  
(visiting from Sacramento),  
Leticia Lara, Rose Falgout*



*Meeting Ramona J. Smith,  
World Champion Speaker:  
Rose Falgout, Leticia Lara,  
Lyida Ramirez (visiting from  
Sacramento)*

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*For me, the most memorable aspect of her speech was that she let the audience connect with her fun and genuine spirit. She also emphasized on being "authentically you."*

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*Power Hour: Leadership  
Through Laughter*

## First-Time Attendee Experience, Cont'ed.

To put my experience of attending this conference into context, I am a new member of Diablo 598. I joined this club after attending a delightful and very informative Open House on February 28, 2019. Not only were the people helpful, but to my delight, they extended an invitation to all the guests to participate in a unique eight-week "Speechcraft" program that was designed to help develop public speaking skills. Of course, I said YES! Thus began my participation and membership with Toastmasters.

With two months of Speechcraft, "nuggets" tucked under my belt I attended the Toastmasters conference, not quite sure what to expect but very excited!

*Morning Sessions: Evaluation Speech contest.* This was my first view into how the delivery of one person's speech is evaluated by eight very different evaluators. My biggest take away from attending this session is that the evaluators who made the most of their unique styles, techniques, and of course their personalities, were the one who delivered the best evaluations. One in particular really stood out for me, Gina Cefalu, and she actually ended up winning the contest!

Next, we heard Ramona J. Smith present a wonderful speech that was filled with tips on how to dazzle an audience and become a world-class speaker. I really enjoyed Ramona's stage presence! It was obvious that she was a passionate, intelligent, and engaging speaker. For me, the most memorable aspect of her speech was that she let the audience connect with her fun and genuine spirit. She also emphasized on being "authentically you."

*Lunch and the venue:* After Ramona's speech, we enjoyed a lovely meal mingling with other Toastmasters. We had an opportunity to enjoy this beautiful venue with a lovely outdoor ambience.

*Afternoon Agenda:* Options for non-voting members and guests to attend a variety of educational break-out sessions. Of the two sessions that I attended, I really enjoyed the "Power Hour: Leadership Through Laughter". This was presented by a trio of very talented men who showed us how to use humor to connect with our audience. Plus how to communicate in a memorable and fun way :).

The last two scheduled activities of the conference were the Awards Ceremony and the International Speech Contest. Regrettably, I wasn't able to stay, but I did end my day with more memorable, and love-filled moments.

*Will I go back next year?* Absolutely! I plan to attend this conference every year and be a part of these inspiring, empowering and motivating events. I agree with the marketing materials that described the conference as an "epic and historic day full of value for Toastmasters members." – Leticia Lara



## Toastmaster Leadership Institute

Every six months District 57 organizes several club officers training sessions and others for those interested in learning new skills. They are held in conjunction with club officer elections. The Premier training is the Toastmasters Leadership (TLI). The coming two TLI sessions will be held in July: Pleasant Hill and in Santa Rosa.

The training is conducted by previous officers. The basic materials are from Toastmasters International (TI). Why are these two elements important? The instructors are experienced in the officer role. They typically have a lot of first-hand information to help new officers. The materials from TI are required to give uniformity to the training on a worldwide basis.

However, it is not unusual for the trainer to add in a few items that they feel are important. For instance, when I was a trainer for the role of Secretary, I always emphasized using a written communication and snail mail to contact guests. When a note with a real stamp appears in their mailbox, it is a personal acknowledgement of the club's interest.

Similarly, at the Sergeant-at-Arms (SAA) training, I reminded the SAA to sit a guest next to a current member.

Typically, there will be light breakfast snacks. The schedule includes a Plenary session headed by the District Trio. The attendee will get to know who the District leaders are and hear a common message about the need for trained officers and other topics.

Later, 1-hour breakout sessions will be of the specific officer training. The schedule may also include "enrichment" sessions about related skills.

Volunteering to help at the TLI is encouraged. It is a great way to meet other Toastmasters outside of your club.

Toastmaster Leadership Institute is a way to enhance the Toastmaster experience while preparing to lead your club to success. It is a worthwhile experience.



## The Pathways Experience

*"As the foundation of your Toastmasters experience, Pathways is designed to help you build the competencies you need to communicate and lead."* – TI

Have you chosen your Pathways program? It is very easy. The "path" to this program is located on the TI website ([www.toastmasters.org/pathways-overview](http://www.toastmasters.org/pathways-overview)). This will guide you to Base Camp (the online gateway) where you will have several options, take a short test and select a path.




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*"As the foundation of your Toastmasters experience, Pathways is designed to help you build the competencies you need to communicate and lead." – TI*

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## The Pathways Experience, Cont'ed.

There are 11 specialized learning paths, including 300 unique competencies, to choose from depending on your interests and goals. These cover a range of topics, so we recommend that it is best to look at them all before making a decision. And, for that, we have a handout that covers them in great detail located in the VP Membership kit.

Pathways:

1. Dynamic Leadership
2. Effective Coaching
3. Engaging Humor
4. Innovative Planning
5. Leadership Development
6. Motivational Strategies
7. Persuasive Influence
8. Presentation Mastery
9. Strategic Relationships
10. Team Collaboration
11. Visionary Communication

The full program is intended to be mobile. You can use it on your phone or at home on your computer and is video-based. There are numerous things to watch as they lead you through the path you've chosen.

The process is relatively short from start to finish for each path. TI says that each path might take you a few months. But, it is at your speed. You work on it as you have the time. Then, pick it back up later.

Any of the club officers should be able to help you. Ask us and we will be happy to help.

## Member Profile: Magie Ednalino



*Magie Ednalino,  
Member Profile*

As an introverted and shy person, I always had a fear of speaking in public or any event. At work, I identified as a quiet and hardworking employee until one day my supervisor recommended me to join a leadership program in our company. This program helped me to enhance and improve my leadership and public speaking skills for a potential job promotion as well as preparation in future leader roles. My mentor strongly encouraged me to join Toastmasters to improve my self-confidence, communication skills, and boost my self-esteem. But most of all, my goal is to conquer my fear of speaking as a leader and to the public.

## Member Profile: Magie Ednalino, Cont'ed.

In April 2015, I decided to join Toastmasters Club 57 and recently transferred to Diablo #598. The Toastmasters learning program is self-paced & provides a supportive environment that motivates members to grow, interact effectively, and be a better public speaker. Since joining, I've had an opportunity to learn and develop myself to overcome my fear, and I found myself feeling comfortable speaking in front of a crowd. As a result, I got promoted and achieved my goal to become a leader! I certainly didn't imagine that I would be a public speaker, promoted and interacting with upper management or senior leaders. I highly recommend anyone to join a club now and experience the difference that it will make in your life.

## Message from the President

In 598, July means a time of change and this July has prompted a particular moment of reflection for me as I think about all the change over the last eight months.

When I became President of 598 in November 2018 for the second time in my Toastmaster's tenure, the Club was about to have fewer than eight members, which is the minimum requirement for renewal. The members and the Club's officers began the work of membership rebuilding. In the process, 598 had the best Open House of the February/March season in District 57 with a packed room and a line of guests out the door to sign-in. Additionally, the Club hosted the only SpeechCraft workshop of the District in the last six months. Many of you joined as a direct result and it has been a great experience to see 598 head down the road of membership growth.

Additional changes include the voting and induction of officers. I will not be returning as President and know that role is going to be in the capable hands of Tyler Vivian. As of the election, there remains vacant positions: VP Membership, Secretary, and Treasurer. These positions develop leadership skills & give members a chance to more directly impact the Club's direction.

To the new Executive Board: Congratulations! I'm sure you'll do a great job of guiding this Club and continuing the membership growth. My one sentence of advice: Always think about how to bring people together. Whether it's addressing conflict or trying to grow membership, these words of wisdom are what I consistently went back to during any challenges.

To our new members of the past few months: Welcome! 598 is excited to have been chosen by you to support your public speaking and leadership skill development.

**WHERE LEADERS  
ARE MADE**



*Destinee Cooper,  
Diablo 598 Club President*

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*The mission of a  
Toastmasters club is to  
provide a supportive  
and positive learning  
experience in which  
members are  
empowered to develop  
communication and  
leadership skills,  
resulting in greater self-  
confidence and  
personal growth.*

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## New Members and Anniversaries

### NEW MEMBERS:

- Magie Ednalino
- Passion Broussard
- Kevin Irving
- Becca Wood
- Will Manduriao
- Cecil Manduriao

### ANNIVERSARIES:

COMING SOON!

## Upcoming Events

Get involved, stay inspired, and have fun! At the club, district and international levels.

Club Officer Induction July 11

Summer Picnic July 13 (12-5pm)



Toastmasters Leadership Institute, South July 13 (8-12noon), Pleasant Hill

District Awards & Officer Installation Gala July 19, Danville

Toastmasters Leadership Institute, North July 27, Santa Rosa

TI Annual Convention August 21-24, Denver, CO

JULY 2019						
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AUGUST 2019						
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SEPTEMBER 2019						
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29	30					

"What's Great in 598" is the publication of Diablo Toastmasters 598, Concord, CA

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# TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL



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