

F-TROOP MONTHLY NEWS

Area 60

Area 62

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Volume 1, Issue 2
August 1, 2009

WHAT TYPE OF LEADER ARE YOU?

Written by Andrea Burnette, Division F Governor

Roxanne Martindale, our Area 62 Governor, led a session at our recent Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) make-up training about characteristics of leaders...most importantly about those leaders who are considered to be effective. As I reflected on the information from that session, I tried to place myself within the leadership factors presented. I have to admit that I was relieved to know that the most effective leaders are those who have portions of each of the leadership factors incorporated into their "style" or I would have had to admit that I am the "Bulldozer" leader...the one with a strong dependence on influence in order to get things done...the one that

most would probably equate to a "boss" type leader.

As I studied further, I found that I had some salvation in that a part of me is also an "Intellectual" leader...one who relies on some reflection about what needs to be done and often looks to others to figure out how to get to where we need to be.

I also have a small part of the "Fix-It" leader in that I don't always totally understand the goal, but I make decisions based on the little I do understand and issue the order to get it done—again the boss style. As a result of this part of my style, I often worry, after the fact, that what I have put out there to be done may be entirely the wrong thing to get where we need to go. Thus far I have been extremely fortunate to have people in my group that pull me back from failure.

Surprisingly, the least prevalent leadership style I seem to display is the "Bureaucrat" leader style. Even though I spent the major portion of my career working within State Government, thankfully I never seemed to get to the point where I needed such strong

structure that I couldn't delegate responsibility to others in the group. Now that I have spent time in careful thought about the "type" of

"A boss creates fear, a leader confidence. A boss fixes blame, a leader corrects mistakes. A boss knows all, a leader asks questions. A boss makes work drudgery, a leader makes it interesting. A boss is interested in himself or herself, a leader is interested in the group." —Russell H. Ewing

leader I see myself as being, I can also find ways to become a stronger, better leader for the group. This growth does not come without change, and some of the change may be uncomfortable; however, it is change that is necessary to be able to step up as a more effective leader.

While it is not comfortable to share what you see as strengths, much less weaknesses, in yourself...it is a growth process that will help you be all that you can be as a leader and a productive member of a group. Through a great deal of introspection, I shared with you the type of leader I cur-

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Special Point of Interest:

- DIVISION F CONTESTS**
The Division F Humorous Speech and Evaluation Contests will be held Saturday, October 3 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

There will be a meet and greet beginning at 9:30 a.m. with "Breakfast" type food provided.

Springfield Senior Citizens Center
123 West Main Street
Springfield, TN

Speech Contest Schedules—Division F

Area 60—Mon., Aug. 31-7 p.m.
 Thoroughbred Club
 Greenview Regional Hospital
 1801 Ashley Cir.
 Bowling Green, KY

Area 62—Sat., Sept. 12-10 a.m.
 State Auto Lunch Bunch
 1415 Conference Dr.
 Goodlettsville, TN

Area 63—Mon., Aug. 31-7 p.m.
 Lebanon Club
 First United Methodist Church
 415 W. Main St.
 Lebanon, TN

YOUR SUPPORT STYLE by Andrea Burnette

During the past month or so, the club officers have been attending the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI). This workshop is used to encourage leaders at the club, area, division...and yes, even the District levels. During these sessions we learn about leadership and what characteristics and development is necessary to become a leader. During a session on Characteristics of Leadership, we learned that each leader has a specific "style" made up of a variety of factors. This is true, not only in leadership, but also in your support.

I'm already ahead of you...you think it is the "job" of leadership to serve as the support network...and you are right. Leaders are expected to provide support and encouragement to their "teams," but they are not the only support. Remember when you brought your good friend to a club meeting and encouraged them to join? At that moment didn't you plan to serve as a support for that friend? What kind of support have you provided?

The most successful support style we

can learn, is to support through our **example**. If we won't speak in front of the club, how can we expect our friend to get up and do what we won't? We won't be able to have good, supportive club officers in the future, if we don't serve in those offices now. Do you use example as a support style.

It is most important that we **be there** for others. I know that all the activities planned in Toastmasters don't always fit

Don't be afraid to challenge the pros, even in their own backyard.

—Colin Powell

into our busy schedules; but we can't support our team if we never show up for them. Is your friend planning to participate in a speech contest? Are you planning to be there for his support? Can he count on you?

Being an **encourager** is also a wonderful way of showing support. Just because you aren't working on the same assignment, doesn't mean you can't give encouragement to someone who needs it. And remember...you don't have to be an expert at something to provide encouragement to someone who is working toward a goal.

I know you probably have friends who will be speaking in our upcoming speech contests. What kind of support are you planning to provide. Will you lead by **example**...also being a part of the contest? Will you **be there** for your friend...in the audience cheering for that friend as he completes the most exciting and nerve-wracking event ever? Can you serve as an **encourager** for your friend? Speaking from experience, it always helps to look out over the audience and see the smiling faces of your best friends nearby. Your attendance and support at all these events means more than you can know to those who look up to you...what is your support style?

Fall Speaking Contests—Humorous and Table Topics

District 63 hosts a wide variety of speaking opportunities for our members in the form of Fall and Spring Speaking Contests. Leading up to the District 63 Fall Conference, a series of Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests are held at the club, Area, and Division levels throughout the District.

Club Officers, it is your responsibility to schedule and hold your club contests and send the winners of both contests on to their respective Area contests. Area Governors...let your club officers know the date and location for your Area Contests as soon as possible so that they can make their plans appropriately. We don't want anyone excluded from a contest simply because they didn't know about it. It is also helpful if the Division Governor knows when and where the Area Contests will be held, so they can attend and support their Area Governors.

These speech contests are also wonderful opportunities for networking between club, Area, and Division members, helping them to know each other better, work together, and support each other.

What else do you gain by participation in the Fall and Spring Contests? The contests offer an excellent opportunity to gain experience in public speaking before a slightly larger audience. At the club level, this is also a fantastic opportunity to work toward completion of your Competent Leader Manual. Projects 6 and 10 in that manual encourage opportunities to help with a club contest by assisting in the organization of the contest or serving in an administrative role in the contest at your club. Finally, the self-confidence you can gain just by participating is more than most people imagine. If you have never experienced the "rush" of presenting in

front of a large group who really understand the importance of what you are doing...I encourage you to take that step and give yourself the experience of a lifetime.

I know it probably sounds trite to tell you it's not about the winning; however, having performed in this venue myself on several occasions, I can honestly say that. I'm sure winning at the Division or District level would be spectacular but I haven't yet experienced that. I do know, however, that winning at the club and Area levels provides a sense of self-confidence that has been unmatched for me by any other experience I have had.

I know you think you can't...but you can. If you start small doing just another assignment in front of your club, before you know it, you will be well on your way.

A GOOD PLAN IS EVERYTHING

I think I've heard it all before. "I can't get a CC this year because there isn't enough time for all the members to speak at our club meeting." "I can't fit 10 speeches into my schedule in the next few months." "Our club won't be able to be distinguished because we don't have enough meeting opportunities to earn all the educational and leadership goals we need." We all know what these sentences represent...the lack of a workable plan.

I know that it is often said that if you want to get something done, find the busiest person you know and ask them to help you out. The reason that works so well is that busy people usually operate through the use of good planning. If you plan ahead you can fit it all in.

Are you aware that you are welcome to present speech assignments in other clubs throughout your Area and Division? Have you even taken advantage of the opportunity to do a speech at a Club Demonstration Meeting? (The District is always seeking those who are interested in helping to build other clubs throughout the District...the demo meeting is the first step in that process.) Do you take advantage of speaking at contests? (These speeches can also work—the first time you give them—as a manual assignment.) Do you volunteer to serve as a presenter at an educational session at the District Conferences or at Summer or Winter TLI?

If you really want to meet your goals in Toastmasters (or anywhere for that

matter), it is necessary to create a workable plan. Sometimes you may have to be a little creative, but you can get done what you set out to do. If you think you have legitimate "reasons" for not being able to find opportunities, I challenge you to give your Club Officers, Area Governors, Division Governors, and District Officers the chance to help you look for opportunities you may not even be aware of...I believe that we can help!

Working through the Toastmasters program requires making your plan and working that plan until you succeed. You have all kinds of people in your corner, cheering you on as you step out and fulfill the plan you have put in place. Don't ever give up!

YOU WORKED & YOU MADE IT--RECOGNITION ROSTER!

Congratulations to all our Division F Toastmasters who have achieved recent educational and leadership goals. It takes exceptional dedication and hard work to meet these goals. You should be proud of your achievements and know that we are too! As you meet your goals, also note the clubs that are now on their way to meeting requirements for their DCP's for this year...GOOD WORK!! We want to recognize all our members in print for their achievements, so please notify your club president or your area governor and let them know when you "hit a mark." They will forward that information to me and I will make certain your name appears in our "Recognition Roster" as soon as I am informed.

CC	Gregory Eric Clark	Tennessee Talkers (Clarksville)	7/22/2009
AC-Bronze	Tammy LaPoint	Mt. Juliet (Old Hickory)	7/15/2009
	Bill Littman	Lebanon (Lebanon)	7/20/2009
AC-Silver			
AC-Gold			
CL	Karen A. Davis	Mt. Juliet (Old Hickory)	7/14/2009
AL-Bronze			
AL-Silver			
LDREXC (HPL)			
DTM			

We're On The Way To A Fantastic Year!!!!!!
Get Involved!

DIVISION F NEWSLETTER

Primary Address of the Division F Governor:
127 Ashland Drive
Ashland City, TN 37015

Home Phone: 615/792-9149
Cell Phone: 615/351-9307
Email: jaburnette@charter.net

Edited & Published Monthly by the Division F Governor



Toastmasters International

Division F

Areas 60, 62, 63

F-Troop Monthly News is published to provide Division and Area news and promote ideas and goals of Toastmasters, a world wide, non-profit educational organization dedicated to teaching skills in public speaking and leadership.

What is Toastmasters?

...No, we don't make toasters!

Toastmasters began in 1924 at the YMCA in Santa Ana, California and has grown to become a world leader in helping people become more competent and comfortable in front of an audience. They have grown to also encompass assistance with leadership skills. It is a nonprofit organization with approximately 250,000 members and reports in excess of 12,000 in 106 countries world-wide. These groups offer a proven - and enjoyable - way to practice and improve communication and leadership skills.

Toastmasters clubs are chartered at a membership of 20 people or more who hold meeting weekly (or bi-weekly) for at least an hour...sometimes up to two. Participants practice and learn skills by filling a meeting role, ranging from giving a prepared speech or an impromptu one (known as Table Topics) to serving as Toastmaster (emcee), timer, evaluator or grammarian.

There is no instructor; instead, each speech and meeting as a whole is critiqued by a member in a positive manner, focusing on what was done right and what could be improved. In District 63, evaluators are known for giving feedback that includes commendations, recommendations, and encouragement.

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.

For more information, please call 615/792-9149 or 615/351-9307.

INFORMATION ON DIVISION F CLUBS

Area 60

Governor:

Jimmie Roberts

Area 60 Clubs:

6985 TN Talkers
Clarksville, TN
(931)221-3684

3967 Springfield Igniters
Springfield, TN
(615)384-3339

7931 Thoroughbred
Bowling Green, KY
(270)781-6511, ext. 2

6316 Deipnosophist Advanced
Donelson, TN
(615)792-9149

Area 62

Governor

Roxanne Martindale

Area 62 Clubs:

3930 Rivergate
Hendersonville, TN
(615)351-2375

5630 Hendersonville
Hendersonville, TN
(615)264-4772

9236 State Auto Lunch Bunch
Goodlettsville, TN
(800)234-1554

3982 Music City
Nashville, TN
(615)523-6450

Area 63

Governor

John Swendiman

Area 63 Clubs:

7009 Lebanon
Lebanon, TN
(615)754-8013

649135 Cracker Barrel
Lebanon, TN
(615)235-4132

7805 Mt. Juliet
Old Hickory, TN
(615)350-3306

2744 Cookeville
Cookeville, TN
(931)528-8715