

## “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.



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><b>Jan. 24, 2009 – D57 Executive Committee Meeting – San Leandro Luckeys Market</b></p> <p><b>February 26, 2009 – 598 Speech Contests Impromptu and International</b></p> <p><b>March 7, 2009 – VP – Education Breakfast</b></p> <p><b>Gary Wong’s Home – Piedmont</b></p>
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### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Douglas Granger** joined the club on January 8, 2009. **Doug** is a dual member of several clubs so he knows the program. Make sure you introduce yourself to **Doug** and get him involved.

### OFFICERS INSTALLED

District 57 Governor **Ashley Harkness** presided at our Officer Installation ceremony last at our first 2009 meeting.

Serving the club for the next six months:

President	Alice Tsai
VP-Education	Michael Ginsberg
VP-Membership	Carie Featherstone
VP-PR	Louis Stifter
Secretary	Shelley Bayol
Treasurer	Rosa Lynn Adams
Sgt. at Arms	Jerry Horton

Support your new and continuing officers as we move forward into 2009.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

**Steven “Shags” Shagrin** who registered yet another CC award in December and an AC-Gold award in January. Good job, **Shags**. Your award gives us two more DCP goal completions!

*Editors Note: One more academic award and Shags earns the D57 Triple Crown Award*

**Ashley Harkness** who completed the requirements for an AC-Gold in January. Way to go Mister Governor. Yet another DCP goal achieved.

**Denise Kalm** who earned her Competent Communicator Award in January. Let’s go for AC- Bronze. Good work, **Denise**.

### WINTER TLI A BIG SUCCESS

Five of our officers were trained at Winter Toastmasters Leadership Institute on January 10, 2009. The format was altered to a general session for returning officers and specific sessions for officers new to their positions. The event drew about 150 club officers from across the district.

Officers who could not be there can attend Division B make-up training next month.

## IT'S CONTEST TIME

Begin preparing now for the Diablo 598 Impromptu and international Speech Contests to be held on February 26, 2009. Winners will compete in the Area 6 Contest in March. Enter one of both.

## FEATURE ARTICLE

By Ashley Harkness, D57 Governor

### "What's the Plan?"

My Goodness! My New Years Resolutions were so very good. But, it is the first half of January and some resolutions have already vanished. How about your resolutions? Has this happened to you, too?

As Toastmasters, we are given several "plans." There is the club Distinguished Club Planning process, the DCP. There are the Competent Leadership projects planned to turn us into better leaders. And, there are the speaking manuals planned to make us great orators. (Well, maybe just much better speakers.) But, do we have a personal plan? I am talking about a personal plan on how we are really going to accomplish all of those dreams we have.

On New Year's Eve, I resolved to write out and implement my personal plan. Each of us has manuals and projects in various stages of completion. I confess: I have several projects that I have been putting off. And, then there are the ones that I have completed but not turned in for credit. ('Fess-up! I know that I am not alone on this.) So, I made a personal plan and it goes like this--

1. Never give up a chance to sharpen my skills: get a lot of stage time, at least twice per month to do some sort of club service or presentation. (Personally, I

love to do the Better Speaker series of presentations. I get practice, the club gets training, and we all grow together.)

2. Dust off the half-completed manuals and schedule myself to complete them by such-and-such a date. (Even those projects that I have been dreading doing!)
3. Immediately submit for credit those milestones that I have earned.
4. Evaluate my progress monthly. And, stay on track.

That's a pretty simple plan, don't you think. What could be more easier: do what I enjoy doing (being in Toastmasters) and working toward goals that are reasonable and fun.

Fellow Toastmasters: Don't wait. Make your personal success plan today. Make this "resolution" really happen. You will be glad that you did. And, we will all share in your victories and successes.

What's the plan? Personal achievement and success, because we planned it that way!

## 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.

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