

Greetings ...

...and congratulations to members of the CCET. I'm delighted to have the opportunity to attend your spring conference this May. This will be a great occasion, as we celebrate the transition of the CCET to a provisional district of Toastmasters.

When this effort began in 1979 I was a fledgling Toastmaster and member of the Ramstein club, 2442-U (that "U" won't be around much longer, I'm very happy to note). It was the dream of those, who were part of the initial leadership cadre (including an eager if inexperienced area governor named Tim Keck), that the European Council would replicate the Toastmasters district structure to the extent possible, with the eventual goal of becoming a district.

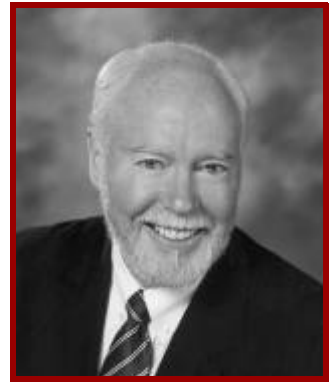
The formation of D-59P is an important milestone in that journey.

The journey is not complete of course. I would urge the Toastmasters of D-59P to work as hard to get rid of that "P" as you did to get rid of the "U" in your club designations. You have a very dedicated and talented leadership team to chart the course. We on the Board of Directors, our staff, indeed the entire organization will support you as you forge ahead.

We are very proud of your accomplishments and wish you the very best in the days and years ahead. Toastmasters has a bright future in Europe. My thanks and best wishes to all who have made this great day possible.

Let's continue this exciting journey together, as we work

together to "build a better world."



I look forward to seeing you in Luxembourg.

Aloha,
Tim Keck



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C.C.E.T. Spring Conference May 19-21, 2000

What, you haven't registered yet? What are you waiting for?

Information and registration forms available on the Web.



Mark your calendars!

C.C.E.T. Fall Conference November 4-5, 2000
Montreux & Glion, Switzerland

The Official Newsletter of the C.C.E.T. in Color on the Web

Meet Two More Guest Speakers



Kai Rambow, DTM, Eileen Wolfe, DTM,

is a Past International Director and one of only 48 Accredited Speakers in Toastmasters. A full-time, professional speaker, Kai has given over 1,500 presentations and authored over 65 published articles, including The Toastmaster magazine.



and past Toastmasters International Director is an international management consultant holding the professional designation Certified Management Consultant (CMC). An accomplished speaker, she has graced the conference stages of a number of professional organizations as a seminar presenter.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating." This is an old saying, but it is not limited to cooking pudding. It covers our whole life's experiences. One way to improve your cooking pudding is to do it often and improve on it each time. Thus we have our next great saying, "Practice makes perfect."

We as Toastmaster are on a two-fold quest. One is education. The other is public speaking. Too often we may reverse our priorities in these two fields, but they are equally complementary. As we advance in our initial Toastmaster's manual, we discover that in reality the two elements are intrinsically entwined. Toastmastering is not merely a school course. It is a life course in which we seek to develop our resources. Have a look at your October, 1999 TOASTMASTER magazine on page 28 for an impressive list of those who have profited by being a Toastmaster, including the founder of Mrs. Field's Cookies.

But membership in Toastmasters is just the beginning. In order to develop that keen edge in speaking, we need to whet and hone our skills on the grindstone of competition. Competition teaches us to set goals. We may or may not win our club speech contests, but we continue to hone our skills for the future. The area competition and then the CCET, soon to be the District Speech Contests remain before us. We may not all be David Brooks, who explained in our Spring Conference two years ago in Sweden that he met with failure before finally winning the World Championship of Public Speaking. We can all profit by our experiences. Surely, Priestly Parker did before winning the CCET Championship last year. He focused in on what he needed to win. Each of us has our own personal speaking styles. It is the development of this style which will lead us to success.


Competition is the means to improve our ability in that golden aura of Toastmastering, public speaking. Fear not to enter the arena. We have nothing to fear but fear itself. It will profit us immeasurably, because as we showed before, each experience can be a learning experience for the next speech contest.

Thus sharpen your axes, hone your skills, because competition will make you a better public speaker.

To read Ardelle's article in its entirety, visit:



ARDELLE HAMILTON, ATM VGED



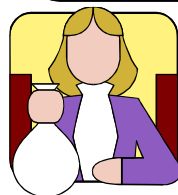
More information on the CCET conference: www.district59.de/p/conferenceschedule.doc

Area 5 Leadership Training
June 10, Brussels & June 18, Paris
Contact: Jeanne Scharch, DTM, AG
+32-2725-9400 or jeanne_scharch@eu.odedodea.edu

Who is Tim Keck?
Find out at: <http://www.district59.de/p/>

Area 5 Contest May 6 in Brussels
contact:
Eva Hanes-Doyle
+32-2731-9742 or hanes-doyle@skynet.de

Is Your Club in Good Standing?



Remember, in order for a contestant to be eligible to compete at the CCET Spring conference, the contestant's club must have paid its CCET dues.

Dues are 5 DEM per club member. The number of members is based on your club's April semi-annual 1999 report submitted to TMI. So avoid having your candidate disqualified on a mere technicality!

Elizabeth Nostedt, CCET Treasurer

Please make payment to: Denise Anne Magyar, C.C.E.T.
Dresdner Bank Munich, Germany, S.W.I.F.T.: DRES DE FF 700
Account no. 370 102 501 Bank code: 700 800 00
Don't forget to note your club's name & number along with the memo "Dues 99/00"



In

Switzerland we have three "company clubs", and five "evening clubs" which are open to all. The companies include Swiss Re, reinsurance brokers, and Autodesk, CAD program developers, and Bulle, under the aegis of the Glion Hotel School. It's a matter of luck for the area, because these clubs virtually founded themselves.

By concentrating our advertising, mostly via email and contacts, we hope to build more company clubs, including at private English schools, colleges and public administration. Here we face an image problem (the awareness of Toastmasters is very low) and in fact antagonism.

Nowadays in the business environment, most people put long-term skill-building at a low personal priority. With a large number of self-improvement courses, Switzerland is over-

saturated. It's no wonder our prospects have little time. Taking Geneva as an example, the social scene is busy with several international clubs, with amateur music, drama and operatic groups, English-speaking bars, etc etc. But this gives us opportunities too.

First, to find the people by using a dense network of newsletters and e-mail. Second, by concentrating on the building of specific skills which are universally valued, people are drawn in from all sources. Third, there are many needs for polished speakers to give outside presentations. In conclusion by providing valued services and attracting a wide range of people, we emphasize our diversity as a strength.

Toastmasters provides a multi-cultural laboratory for communication skills, and we can concentrate on long-term value for time and price.

To read Graham's article in its entirety, go to:

www.district59.de/p/tritt.html

What Sort of Club Are We? A personal opinion of Graham Tritt, Switzerland (abridged)

***It** has always been our aim to establish new French-speaking Toastmasters clubs. Our friends in Lyon have been working towards this goal for a year now and have about fifteen members. It looks as if they are soon going to hit charter strength (20 members). Needless to say, if you know anybody who might be interested in Lyon, let him know. Otherwise, we have a lead in Liège with an initial meeting slated for May 20. If you know of any other leads, the area team is at your disposal for demonstration meetings and to help in starting a new club. Regarding articles for the Clarion, may I remind you that there will be another issue in June 2000? Please don't hesitate to send me your contributions in file form.

* French-speaking Toastmasters in Europe now have their own Web site. The address is: <http://members.aol.com/ToastMFrance>. Go there for area news, and information about the C.C.E.T. conference in Luxembourg, May 19 to 21, 2000 in particular.

* The French-speaking area in Europe has incorporated under the law

of 1901 as of February 26, 2000. Officers are as follows. President: Thierry Peirani. Treasurer: Olivier Mangé. Secretary: Peter Kenton. A new slate of officers will be elected during the annual membership meeting June 24, 2000 in Valenciennes.

* The C.C.E.T. spring conference will take place May 19 to 21, 2000 in Luxembourg. We will be honored by the visit of the President of Toastmasters International, Tim Keck. This will be a first! The main reason for his visit is that we are about to become a provisional district (No. 59P) effective July 1, 2000. There will also be a French evaluation contest, a French speech contest, two French educational sessions, and of course contests and educational sessions in English and German.

* There is still a chance to conduct educational sessions at the Area 3 area council meeting June 24, 2000 in Valenciennes. Please note that sessions can count toward attaining the Competent Leader designation.

A WORD FROM AREA GOVERNOR Thierry Peirani

FORUM DES RIVES DE SEINE

How to Choose a Topic - excerpts from the educational session held by Armelle Mercier

What the listener expects from the speaker is competence, useful and interesting information that is clear and understandable. The listener's motivation derives from:

- ✓ a desire to open one's self to the world. New ideas, places, cultures, unusual things
- ✓ a need for material security. Useful advice to attain this security.
- ✓ the wish for a certain psychological well-being.
- ✓ the wish for physical well-being. Good health.
- ✓ the need for free speech.
- ✓ the need to socialize, to make friends.

You can also talk about your hobbies, about any field you have special knowledge of, or about your own experience.

ELOQUENCE 45

(anonymous letter)

In addition to the classic roles at a meeting, it's also possible to have the following assignments:

- ✓ the Wordmaster who presents the Word of the Day. Each subsequent Toastmaster has to use the word as often as possible. At Eloquence 45, the grammarian assumes this function.
- ✓ the educational speaker who presents a brief educational session (6 minutes long) on a particular subject such as beginning and concluding your speech or using the overhead projector (from the Better Speaker Series).
- ✓ an evaluator for the Table Topics session. The Table Topics Masters assumes this role at Eloquence 45.
- ✓ a Jokemaster who relates a humorous tale or quote not to exceed one minute.
- ✓ a parliamentarian who tactfully intercedes and preserves order. The president fulfills this role at Eloquence 45.
- ✓ Why not try introducing some of these roles? Why not start with a Jokemaster?

AGORA 75

Anna Eicher, President (Agoramage)

The success that Toastmasters has enjoyed in the years since its inception in the United States 75 years ago demonstrates that thanks to members' enthusiasm, the idea of better communications has spread throughout the whole world. Now at the threshold of the third millennium, I am convinced that communication will be of cardinal importance in these days of high technology. Even if today we use e-mail, nothing can ever replace the spoken word. Oral communication will remain our most effective method of understanding others. And that's where Toastmasters can help! I am quite happy that Agora has already had the opportunity of presenting this concept to several institutes of higher learning. Communication is like a diamond in the rough. You have to cut it with an infinite amount of love and patience so that it will be able to shine in all its glory. Let's all glitter together!

ELOQUENCE HAINAUT

a word from President Bé-chir BOUGHATTAS

We have a rule at our meetings: no one is allowed to talk about politics or religion. Any potentially offensive subject is forbidden. This golden rule helps cement cohesiveness and understanding among our members. Not feeling that our ideas or beliefs are under attack allows us to drop our guard and focus on listening for grammar mistakes, listening closely to speeches and learning. That last word, "learn", is the key here. In order to be able to learn, we have to be at ease, relaxed and be willing to accept ideas without bickering or vindictiveness.

CALLIOPE

for the year 2000

Annick Bourgeois and Marie-France Attlan (president)

Go calmly amid all the hubbub and the hurry and remember that there is peace in silence. Be on good terms with your neighbor as much as possible. Speak the truth softly and clearly and listen to others, even the simplest and most ignorant. They also have a story to tell.

BE HAPPY! Don't compare yourself to anyone else. You'll risk becoming vain. There will always be somebody who is greater or humbler than us. Enjoy your projects and your accomplishments. Retain a keen interest in life no matter how modest that life may be, for the world is full of deceit.

Dear fellow European Toastmasters:

In the last issues of the Clarion I have asked for your comments on your experience in how Toastmastering works (or doesn't) in Europe. I invited your questions on club life and marketing Toastmasters. Thanks for all your replies so far. I am trying my best to answer them as they come in. Please bear with me.

Some replies included an invitation to meet with a club or to participate in Area Conferences. As a consequence, I traveled a lot as part of my CCET office, and some more visits are still

pending. I would briefly like to share some important insight.

It is very rewarding to meet other Toastmasters and attend their meetings. We always claim that Toastmaster meetings are the same worldwide. This is true -- and yet, every club brings its own individual touch to its meetings. I found visiting other clubs extremely beneficial in understanding a club's point of view and why not every idea is met with enthusiasm regardless how plausible it might seem.

**Thanks for
the experience.**

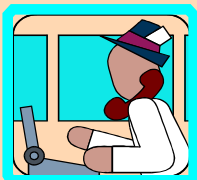
The Board needs and wants to learn from your contributions. So keep up the good work and let us know.



Dirk Husfeld

Dirk Husfeld, ATM-B, CL
Vice Chairman Marketing
husfeld@usm.uni-muenchen.de

July 15, 2000 Clarion
Submission Deadline
June 15, 2000



Denise Anne Magyar,
Editor

Dear Toastmasters:

Although the CCET Spring conference is in May, the deadline for the Website Contest was April 21, 2000.

Perhaps you and your club participated. I hope so! You were all welcome. Please take a moment to check if your web-site address appears on the CCET page at:

<http://www.district59.de/p/ccet.html>

If not, please let me know your URL, so I can take it into account for the contest. You will also find more

details about recommendations for club web sites if you go to:

<http://www.district59.de/p/website.html>

You'll find the judging criteria at:

<http://www.district59.de/p/website-rules.html>

I wish you all good luck and look forward to seeing you in Luxembourg.

Christoph.Stoppok@ilcs.de
Public Relations Officer CCET