

### Better Late Than Never



ATM Denise Magyar said it best when she wrote in the last Clarion, "Best Laid Plans..." and her advice to me was, "to expect the unexpected." Well, on 11 September 2001, tragedy struck the world and we all reeled in shock as the day's events unfolded. For me, another tragedy struck, this time even closer to home—my father's mother passed away of cancer on 15 September, less than nine months after my father's father passed away. Needless to say, the first quarter issue of the Clarion should have been released around the first of October and wasn't. Well, now it's here—enjoy.

### Clarion (clar-i-on)



A medieval trumpet with a clear high-pitched tone. From the Latin term "clarus," meaning "clear."

### Take control of your destiny: three steps to go for it!

The theme of our International President, Alfred Herzing, for this year, "Take control of your destiny," could seem difficult to put into practice. Easier said than done! Why?



When I ask people to list reasons why we hold back and stop short of reaching our goals, the reasons usually involve fear - fear of failure, fear of success, fear of rejection, fear of not being good enough, fear of looking foolish. Here are three steps you can take to overcome your fears and thereby take control of your destiny.

#### 1. Believe in yourself.

There is no one else on earth like you. You have a unique perspective that we need to hear. We can learn something from you. We're all teachers and we're all students. Use positive self-talk. "I am," are the two most powerful words, in any language. Whatever adjectives we follow those two words with when describing ourselves will determine who and what we are. If you say, "I am afraid," you will be afraid. If you say, "I am courageous," you will be courageous. Act successful, and you will be courageous.

#### 2. Have faith in others.

Most people tend to worry too much about what other people think of them. It's your life; it doesn't matter what others think you should be, should do, or should have done. In reality, most people are pulling for you, especially if you are providing a service that helps them. They want you to succeed. Together we make a difference; together, we achieve!

#### 3. Take action.

"Outside of nature, nothing happens on its own," said Alfred Herzing in the Toastmaster magazine. You have the ideas, now is time to build the plan and take action. The time is now because all we have is now. If you let this time pass you by, you will never have it again. Numerous opportunities lie ahead of us. It all starts with us: when we take action, we take control of our destiny.

## 2001 District 59P Fall Conference

### Toastmasters Club Wiesbaden # 9730



It is with great pride and pleasure that we cordially invite Toastmasters from Europe and abroad to attend the 2001 District 59P Fall Conference. The Fall Conference will be held on **November 9-11, 2001 in beautiful Wiesbaden, Germany**. Come and join us at the **Ramada Hotel**, which is located only a few minutes away from downtown Wiesbaden attractions. Wiesbaden is a world-class city with its lustrous pedestrian district and historical buildings designed with architectural perfection, and is a must see. The charm of its famous past as a "world spa" is still present in Wiesbaden. Its ideal location on the river Rhine approximately 40 km west of Frankfurt and the nearby Rheingau winegrowing region are further good reasons for a visit. Plan your visit by checking out the Wiesbaden web site: <http://www.wiesbaden.de>.



We are pleased to offer two conference packages for you to choose from. **Package 1** includes **all Saturday and Sunday events** as well as the conference highlights as the District 59P humorous speech contest and the Saturday night gala dinner with dance and music afterwards. For those of you with less time, we offer **Package 2** that includes the **speech contest** and the **gala dinner (Saturday only)**. Also we hope to welcome as many of you as possible at the informal but enjoyable Friday night socializing with surprise activities and a casual dinner at the Ramada (not included in the conference packages).

## The European Year of Languages 2001

The European Year of Languages 2001 is a celebration of Europe's linguistic diversity and promotes language learning and related skills. It is organized by the European Union and the [Council of Europe \(Decision 1934/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council\)](#). The European Year of Languages involves a Europe-wide information campaign. The activities and promotional measures envisaged include:

- A [special Web site](#), where much more detailed information can be found, along with various interactive language exercises and activities (from September 2000)
- Printed material: infopack, stickers, posters, leaflets, Guide for language learners "*How you can learn languages*"
- Exhibitions and events
- An opening event which took place in [Lund, Sweden, on 18-20 February 2001](#) and an event to mark the end of the Year on 7-8 December 2001, Brussels, Belgium
- Open days at language learning institutions
- European-wide competitions
- A European language day on 26 September 2001
- An adult language-learners' week from 5 to 11 May 2001
- Television, radio and press coverage



The European Commission is also co-financing projects (maximum 50%) initiated at national, regional and local levels. A list of the projects financed under the first phase of the selection process can be viewed by clicking [here](#) (pdf format).

## La Conférence Toastmasters Internationale annuelle à Anaheim, Californie, du 21 au 25 août 2001



Imaginez : plus de 2000 Toastmasters accourus du monde entier, réunis dans un hôtel superbe offrant deux salles gigantesques de 3000 mètres carrés, bien entendu modulables, séparées par un foyer spacieux et une galerie - promenoir aérée, où personne ne se bouscule, le tout dans une organisation et une ponctualité sans défaut.

Imaginez : le mardi soir, le concours inter - districts, au cours duquel s'affrontent les meilleurs orateurs des districts extérieurs à l'Amérique du Nord (USA et Canada). Nous aurons le droit d'y participer lorsque nous serons débarrassés de P (pour provisoire), c'est-à-dire lorsque nous aurons atteint les 60 clubs (8 de plus qu'aujourd'hui seulement !). Le vainqueur est en chaise roulante, et son discours plein d'optimisme et de fougue nous a tous galvanisés.

Imaginez, en préambule à l'ouverture des travaux, l'arrivée en grande pompe, du fond de l'immense salle, de cent drapeaux représentant cent pays, dans un roulement de tambours, et votre servante, pourtant pas particulièrement patriote, serrant avec bonheur la hampe de notre drapeau national, pas peu fière d'aller l'installer en fond de scène, sous les sunlights... et les applaudissements !

Imaginez des ateliers et des sessions éducatives à profusion, conduits par les tout meilleurs, notamment le gagnant du concours international de discours de l'an dernier, Ed Tate, qui nous a raconté l'investissement qu'a représenté pour lui ce défi et nous a gratifiés, d'une traite, des trois discours gagnants qu'il a prononcés successivement aux niveaux de son district, de sa région, pour finir en beauté à la Convention annuelle. Epoustouffant !

Imaginez le Golden Gavel Luncheon, un déjeuner de gala, au cours duquel notre District Governor 2000-2001 Dirk Husfeld et son épouse Luciana étaient à table sur scène, oui oui, sur scène, parmi les tout meilleurs, car notre District 59 s'est distingué par ses résultats en étant 7<sup>ème</sup> sur 77, alors que nous sommes affligés du P pour provisoire, n'ayant pas encore atteint les 60 clubs requis ! C'est dire si l'avenir est à nous...

Imaginez le Hall of Fame, où trois heures durant (je vous l'avoue, c'est un peu longuet !) tous les Toastmasters présents vont applaudir à tout rompre les résultats reconnus par Toastmasters International, qu'il s'agisse d'individus, de clubs ou de districts qui se sont particulièrement distingués au cours de

l'année passée. Nous étions neuf pour représenter notre District, Select Distinguished cette année : nous sommes bravement montés tous les neufs sur la scène car c'était la toute première fois que l'Europe était représentée de façon visible à la Convention Internationale annuelle, et pour un coup d'éclat, c'était un coup de maître qu'il fallait marquer dignement ! L'an prochain, nous avons la volonté de monter d'un cran dans le classement, pour faire partie des six premiers, les President Distinguished Districts, la crème de la crème !

Imaginez enfin, samedi matin, l'affrontement des titans de l'art oratoire, les neufs candidats représentant les neufs régions qui constituent l'univers Toastmasters, ceux qui ont gagné les concours dans leur club, puis leur secteur, puis leur district et enfin leur région, pour arriver sans trembler ce matin devant un parterre de 2000 âmes, où tout se jouera en 5 à 7 minutes ! Et quand je dis tout, je parle sérieusement, car il semble bien que le fait de remporter ce concours international apporte de dramatiques changements dans la vie de ceux auxquels cela arrive : tout les anciens champions que j'ai vus à Anaheim font maintenant un métier en relation directe avec la communication et l'art oratoire...

Toastmasters International est unanimement reconnu aux Etats-Unis et dans d'autres pays du monde comme un efficace moyen de progresser, grâce à des méthodes éprouvées et à une organisation très au point. Il ne tient qu'à nous qu'un jour il en soit de même en France ; pour cela, la première chose à faire est de nous développer en créant des clubs, de façon à pouvoir offrir la possibilité de progresser à tous ceux qui le souhaitent, quel que soit leur lieu de résidence ou de travail.

Alain Pétillet, le gouverneur de notre District 59P 2001-2002 a choisi comme devise « Together we achieve », en français « Ensemble, nous réussissons » ; je vous invite tous à faire vôtre cette devise, afin que les clubs existants croissent en nombre de membres et que l'année en cours voie se créer de nouveaux clubs francophones : on peut rêver du jour où nous aurons un district européen francophone (60 clubs) qui nous permettrait de tenir des concours de District en français...

Alors, haut les cœurs ! Lançons-nous avec enthousiasme dans les campagnes de recrutement !

**Odile Pétillet**  
**Responsable du secteur francophone 3**  
**District 59 P, Toastmasters International**

## District 59P Reserve Statement

At the end of July 2001, we had:

- 3 regular members
- 18 new members

At the end of August 2001, we had:

- +17 new members
- +20 chartered members (club 561)

Total for end of August 2001, we had:

- 3 regular
- 37 new
- 20 chartered

Net per capita income year-to-date = 177.75

Balance end of August in TMI = \$8384.70

THIERRY PEIRANI



## Competent Leader

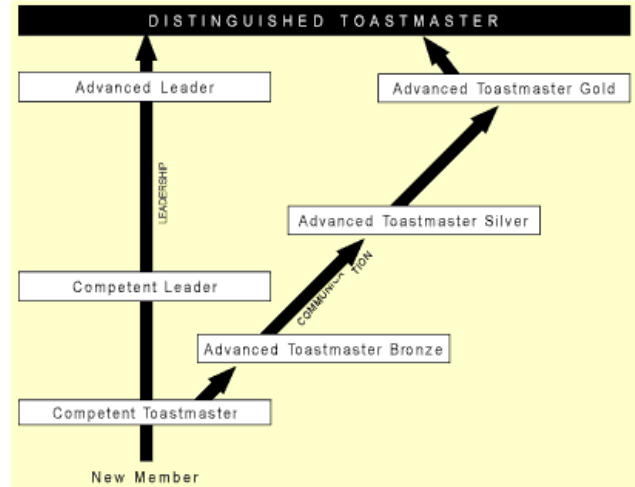
Once you have achieved your CTM, you are eligible to apply for the Competent Leader award. To start with the preparation of the application you need not achieved your CTM. You can work in parallel without any problem. And believe me, I know many people who do so. What do you have to do for your application? Five steps are necessary:

- (1) Achieve your CTM (already explained)
- (2) Serve at least six months as a Club officer (President, Vice President Education, Vice President Membership, Vice President Public Relations, Secretary, Treasurer, or Sergeant at Arms)
- (3) Participate in the preparation of a Club Success Plan -> That is quite an important issue!!! If you haven't yet been involved, ask your current president about it. If she/he does not know ask your VP Education. If she/he does not know either, ask your Area Governor. If you do not know who your Area Governor is, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will help you!!! PROMISED. To make the explanation short here: normally the president brings the board of officers together and they all prepare a Club Success Plan together.
- (4) While a Club officer, participate in a district-sponsored Club-officer training program. (Probably you have done so already. If not, you have a chance to attend training during the next training period (Dec-Jan-Feb)). If you have any questions

concerning the training, please contact your Area Governor (or if you do not know who it is, please ask me).

(5) Conduct any two programs from the Successful Club Series. These programs are small presentations, which are already prepared by TMI. The presentations are easy to do and the content might be interesting to you as well as to your club members. The small manuals together with some overhead transparencies can be ordered from TMI. If you have any questions concerning the manuals please ask your VP Education or, if you need further help, just ask me. You will find a list of the programs at: <http://www.toastmasters-wiesbaden.de/success.html> or attached to this mail.

I hope the given information was helpful to you. I will come back quite soon with some more information.



Best regards and take care,

Christoph Stoppok  
Lieutenant Governor Education & Training

Next Clarion Deadline is 26 Nov 2001  
Submit to [knottsj@interquest.de](mailto:knottsj@interquest.de)

## Ralphisms on Public Speaking

1. Every Toastmaster starts the same—Ice Breaker Speech.
2. You are only as good as your last speech.
3. The time to start preparing for your next speech is directly after your last.
4. If there's a window, you'll look out of it.  
ATM Ralph Jones, Area 11 Governor