



# Clarion

Toastmasters District 59 Newsletter

VOLUME 6

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2008

## **Dear Fellow Toastmasters,**

you receive the latest News, fascinating articles and success stories.

Feel free to hand it out to guests, new members in your club or to anybody in Toastmasters who doesn't know the Clarion yet.

In former days a guy with a trumpet did a „Clarion Call“ to gain attention. Today we spread the News via E-Mail and on the website.

We are bit quieter today, but have similar important news for you. Benefit from shared experience.

## **Promote and distribute The Clarion.**

Expect some fascinating articles in this volume:

### **Zuzana Grofova: Changes in TMI Structure**



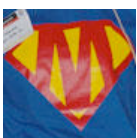
Toastmasters Int. plans restructuring and wants to include us into a region with Middle-East...  
Read more on page 2

### **Paul Talacko Unique Conference, Unique City**



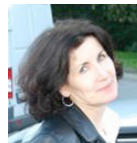
Paul shows us how unique Prague is. He reports why Prague is worth a journey - let alone visiting the District conference... Page 3

### **Kai Gabriele Krüger & Dirk Husfeld Spaceship E.T.M. MENTORPRISE on course**



Did you ever wonder what the Mentoring initiative is doing right now? Get more details on page 4

### **Lee Tapia´s Page Hall of Fame & Calendar**



Get the most current dates for Division Conferences and the Acknowledgements for the Awards the District's members have achieved so far: page 5

### **Manfred Schröder What you gain as officer**



Learn how valuable an officer training can be - especially interesting for Area Governors and Club officers on page 6

### **District Conference Essentials & Details on page 7**

### **Thomas Löb Networking & Promoting Toastmasters in XING**



Learn how Toastmasters use new media networks for PR and advertising to gain new members. Interesting for all members. Page 8

### **Ellen Hermens Messages from your District PR Officer on Page 9:**



Call for nominations  
Golden Quill (best club newsletter)  
Sparkling Pixel (best club website)

& Officer Corner  
A tipp how to promote the new Leadership Manual

**Read on!**

## Changes in TMI Structure

Dear friends, Fellow Toastmasters in the District 59,

In future we are going to face some changes that are currently prepared by the Board of Directors and TMI WHQ. To know how to decide let me inform you about what is prepared. Being informed in time you can digest the proposals and think it through.

*Full text of Board of Directors minutes can be found on TMI website.*

### Board of Directors prepares following changes:

New regional boundaries, the system of region advisors, amendments to District Administrative Bylaws, District training and speech contest events, new nomination procedures for International officers and directors and district officers.

**1. 14 regions instead of 8 regions + DNAR (Districts Not Assigned to Regions).** Our new Region 11 will consist of D 71 (Great Britain and Ireland), D 59 (Continental Europe), other Europe, D 79 (Bahrain, Kuwait, Jordan, Qatar, UAE..), other Middle East.

#### This change will bring us:

a) one more conference (Regional c., in June) with the International speech contest and training for Top Four district officers. (District Governor (DG), District Governor-elect (DGE), Lieutenant Governor Education (LGE), Lieutenant Governor Marketing (LGM)).

b) Region Advisors. Three per region (Region Leadership Advisor, Region Education Advisor, Region Marketing Advisor). Will be selected by Board vote in February. Their term starts on March 1 and will last for 16 months. They will provide support for districts.

In August 2008 this is going to be voted on: adoption of amendment to Bylaws. Decision of the Board will be composed as policies as soon as practical after adoption.

**Meaning: We can expect some changes effective in 2009.**

### 2. International Leadership Committee

This committee will nominate both officer and director candidates. There will be 2-3 candidates for directors and for the Second VP. President-elect and First VP will have 1-2 nominations.



### 3. District Leadership Committee (DLC) and changes in district positions

This committee will nominate 2 candidates for District Governor-elect and at least 1 candidate for other elected positions (Division Governors).

DG-elect will work 1 year with District Governor. DG-elect will appoint the following officers for the next year: Lieutenant Governor Marketing (LGM), Lieutenant Governor Education (LGE), Public Relations Officer (PRO), Secretary, Treasurer and Area Governors (AGs may be appointed or elected).

The District council would approve such appointments at the council meeting prior to DGE becoming District Governor.

District Governor (DG) and Immediate Past District Governor (IPGD) are not elected.

The chairman of DLC may be IPDG.

### 4. Changes in District Officers Training

Primary duty of Region Advisors.

Top four district officers (DG, DGE, LGM, LGE) will be trained in June and in mid-year.

DG and DGE will be trained in August.

Ongoing training throughout the year could occur via teleconference, webinar etc.

### 5. District visits

Every year, each district will receive one reimbursed visit (Int. President, Int. Director or Region Advisor). RA would come to DExCom meeting or other training meeting only.

This was just the brief information to get the big picture. We will see what the time brings as accepted. Please think about it, speak about it, you will be definitely asked to express your decision as clubs if you support the changes or not.

**Either the changes in TMI structure come in future or not - the club life with quality meetings, speeches, evaluations, educational and leadership awards will continue as it is.**

**I am looking forward to new clubs chartered, to all educational and leadership achievements in our district. We have much to do till the end of June. Stay focused on your personal goals and the whole District 59 will profit from it.**

AND keep in mind:

**Toastmasters –  
it is YOUR VEHICLE TO SUCCESS!**

Zuzana Grofova

DTM, District 59 Governor 2007-2008

## Unique Conference, Unique City

Be part of a unique conference in a unique city -  
the **Prague Spring into Action District Conference**  
from 16th to 18th May.



Much of Prague is a UNSECO world heritage site - it is not called the "**City of 100 Spires**" for nothing.

And let's not forget beer, the Czech national drink. Rightly famous around the world, in its home country, it is value for money.

It is 40 years since Warsaw Pact armies invaded Czechoslovakia and crushed freedom of speech. What better way to commemorate this anniversary than with a celebration of speaking?

Join us at what will be a superb event. There will be a fantastic gala dinner and other fun social activities.

Enjoy the thrill of seeing the **District's best speakers and evaluators competing** for Toastmasters' most prestigious prizes.

Join us too in the **educational sessions** to be given by some of the most experienced Toastmasters.

These are sure to provide invaluable tips that we can take back to our home clubs and use to enhance our business and personal lives. The schedule includes how to be a personal guide, persuasive leadership, achieving your goals and conference technique.



By **visiting Prague** for the conference, you'll be getting inside tips from local Toastmasters, who can take you to those places that others just won't be able to find.



Prague is one of the fastest growing, most **energetic, dynamic and vibrant cities** of

Europe. Prague has fine food, theatre, music, and a vibrant night-life. Prague has something for everyone, including traditional Czech pubs, cocktail bars, top quality food and fantastic parks and gardens.

All of this takes place in a city renowned for **architecture** that has made Prague a holiday destination of choice bringing visitors from around the world.

Prague is at the heart of Europe and is easy to reach from wherever on the continent you may be. High speed trains link Prague to the north and south. Good roads and motorways lead to Prague from all four directions of the compass. Budget airlines from around Europe fly to Prague making sure that low-priced flights are always available. There are simply no excuses not to **come to Prague for the conference!**

The conference is perfectly timed for the Prague Marathon (11 May) and for those wishing to help **Polish Toastmasters celebrate their 10th anniversary** and to join them for their annual **Speech Marathon**.

**Take advantage of the special low rate, negotiated for Toastmasters only,** at the conference hotel: **Hotel Pyramida \*\*\*\***. The package includes free wireless Internet and entry to the relaxation centre. The hotel is within easy reach of the airport.

Public transportation, takes you quickly and efficiently to the **historic Prague Castle district** and the romantically picturesque Mal\_ Strana.

Registration is still a mere snip at **145,-Euro** so **Spring into Action** and register before prices increase on the **17th April** at

<http://conference.district59.org/registration.php>

**Prague - you just can't afford to miss it.**



**Paul Talacko**

CC, Treasurer of Bohemian Toastmasters

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# Spaceship E.T.M. MENTORPRISE on course

## Mentoring in District 59

The spaceship MENTORPRISE is a symbol for the **Mentoring** initiative initiated by **Kai Gabriele Krüger** and **Dirk Husfeld**. It made a stop-over at the District 59 Fall Conference on November 25th in Vienna, Austria, where Kai and Dirk gave an Educational Session titled:

**"Why is Mentoring so important?"**.

The accompanying pictures show Pilot Kai briefing the spaceship's "crew", ie. the audience, while Captain Dirk is setting the course for '**E.T.M. MENTORPRISE**'.

Its next missions was be a presentation by Kai at the Karlsruhe Toastmasters Club on February 14th and a meeting of Dirk with the Toastmasters of the two clubs in Ulm on January 20th.

For additional information on the Mentoring initiative see the web page at

<http://www.district59.org/mentoring.html>



**You want the  
E.T.M. MENTORSHIP  
to stop at your club?**

**You need a Mentor?**

**You would like to be a  
Mentor yourself?**

**You have questions concerning  
Mentoring?**

**You have a story to share?**

**You want to be part of the  
crew?**

Then get in touch with the crew  
of the E.T.M. Mentorship:

Kai Gabriele Krüger and Dirk  
Husfeld.

Also check out their website for  
more information:

[www.district59.org/mentoring.html](http://www.district59.org/mentoring.html)

From Captain Dirk's Log:

*„The **E.T.M. MENTORPRISE**  
will shortly add further forces  
to its staff.*

*They will continue the voyages  
we have begun, and journey  
to all the districted clubs,  
boldly going where no mentor  
has gone before.“*

**Kai Gabriele Krüger**  
ACS, CL

**Dirk Husfeld**  
ATM-B, CL



(Photos by Greg Palmer)

## Calendar

**Club contests** for Int. Speech and Evaluation speeches are best being held in March

**Dues are Due** on April 1st

**Area Conferences** take place in our Division in March and April - contact your Area Governor:

<http://www.district59.org/divisions.html>

**Division A Conference, 5th April 2008, in Orleans, France** for the French-speaking clubs in France, Belgium & Luxemburg

**Division B Conference, 19th April 2008, in Brussels, Belgium** for the English-speaking clubs in Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg and France

**Division C Conference, 26th April 2008, in Hannover, Germany** for the northern part of Germany

**Division D Conference, 26th April 2008, in Nuremberg, Germany** for Northern Bavaria, Austria, Hungary & Czech Republic

**Division E Conference, 19th April 2008, in Zurich, Switzerland** for Switzerland

**Division F Conference, 3rd May 2008, in Düsseldorf, Germany** for South Germany

**Division G Conference, 19th April 2008, in Gothenburg, Sweden** for Scandinavia

**Division H Conference, 19th April 2008, in Madrid, Spain** for Spain & Portugal

**Division I Conference, 26th April 2008, in Munich, Germany** for Munich & Ulm

You are welcome to attend, contact the according Division Governor:

<http://www.district59.org/divisions.html>

**District Spring Conference, 16th to 18th May 2008**, in Prague, Czech republic

**Elections** for new club officers are best done in May.

## District Hall of Fame

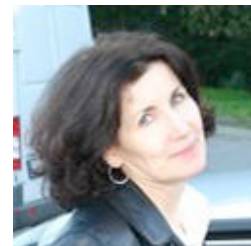
### Educational Achievements

As our Lieutenant-Governor of Education and Training

**Lee Tapia** writes:

Nearly 200 fellow members of District 59 have reached a destination they set for themselves already this year;

**to them I offer my sincerest congratulations.**



It is an absolute pleasure for me when I check the reports and see members of my District 59 family achieving their goals:

**108** Competent Communicators (CC)

**18** Advanced Communicator Bronze (ACB)

**7** Advanced Communicator Silver (ACS)

**7** Advanced Communicator Gold (ACG)

**21** Old Competent Leaders (OCL)

**11** Competent Leaders (CL) **completing the new Competent Leadership Manual**

**6** Advanced Leader Bronze (ALB)

**6** Advanced Leader Silver (ALS)

**7** High Performance Leadership project completions (LDREXC)

**+ 2 Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM):**

**Elena Sollewijn Gelpke**

Berlaymont Toastmasters of Brussels

**Thomas Skipwith**

Rhetorik Club Zürich



**You would like to get a Competent Leadership manual ?**

We only ask is that you keep me informed of your progress and allow all members of District 59 to follow either using the Clarion or the District 59 webpage.

**Just send an e-mail to**

**[lee.tapia@t-online.de](mailto:lee.tapia@t-online.de).**

**The first 50 to respond will get the manual absolutely free.**

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# What you gain as officer

## Report of the 2nd Officertraining, Area C3

As an officer you get the chance of attending a district sponsored training twice a year. While the first round covers primarily the duties and tasks of a club officer - the second round is usually more experience based to bring out the best in the officers.



The 2nd Officertraining of Area C3 was designed in the form of WORK-shop, which meant that all participants were actively involved during the 4 hours. The whole workshop was dealing with just one issue:

**“How can we motivate new club officers for the next Toastmasters year?”**

At the end of the day a participant remarked: “This afternoon was full of activity – and it was fun!”

### **Warm-up**

As a warm-up exercise, Manfred Schröder had prepared several cards with abstract terms:

- discipline,
- success,
- cooperation,
- variety,
- creativity,

...

The participants were asked to choose one term and to explain the relation of this term to their current officer’s role. A subsequent reflection on the exercise revealed how differently people are motivated.

### **Your own motivation**

The next exercise also dealt with the own motivation. A participant mentioned an activity he had just performed as a club officer (e. g. organizing a conference, welcoming guests).



Repetitive questions helped to explore the motivation behind the own actions:

- Why did you do that?
- What other reasons did you have?
- What was your intention?
- What was your own benefit?

The answers were collected on a flipchart. Several core values had been identified:

- perfectionism,
- sense of duty,
- security,
- structure,
- pride,
- recognition and acknowledgement.

In the reflection of this exercise the participants recognised that in order to motivate club members they should primarily **point out the benefits these members will have** themselves instead of focusing on the tasks.

A **force-field analysis** revealed supporting and hindering forces for assuming an officer’s role. The ideas of the participants were visualised on a flipchart (fig. 1).

This exercise showed that hindering forces can best be overcome by explaining that the tasks are spread in time and can be divided into manageable subtasks. The club should be a safe environment with a culture that encourages members experiment with something new, to step out of the own comfort zone and to grow personally by making new experiences. An appeal to the sense of duty might help to balance taking and giving. The importance of a good feedback culture became evident:

**Recognition of efforts and achievements, however small, is a crucial motivational factor.**



**Manfred Schröder**

CC, CL, Area Governor C3  
manfred.schroeder@online.de



**Toastmasters District 59 Spring Conference 2008 • Prague, Czech Republic**

### Essentials



#### Location

**Orea Hotel Pyramida \*\*\*\***

Bělohorská 24  
Praha 6  
Czech Republic

Special Toastmasters Prices for your stay are available.

#### Price Packages

- \* **Full** (entire conference) – regular (from Feb 17, 2008 until Apr 16, 2008): **€ 145**
- \* **Full** (entire conference) – late (from Apr 17, 2008): **€ 165**
- \* **Guest** (Saturday afternoon (no lunch) and Gala evening including dinner): **€ 75**

#### Program



Check the educational sessions in the program - which are YOU going to attend:

[conference.district59.org/program.php](http://conference.district59.org/program.php)

#### TIPPS

Accommodations, Links, information Prague etc. you find at website:

<http://conference.district59.org>

**Take the advantage to register now before April 17th 2008 and save over 10% off-price.**

## Prague Spring into Action

### District 59 Spring Conference

May 16–18, 2008

### Prague, Czech Republic



Citation from the official homepage of Prague: <http://magistrat.praha-mesto.cz/>:

Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, is a tourists' paradise offering all a tourist could hope for. From secret corners and romantic places overlooking the historically valuable city centre, which is protected by UNESCO, to opportunities of wild parties until early hours, Prague has it all. You can satisfy your curiosity in historical places, museums and galleries, every day you can choose from an array of music events, ranging from classical music to the latest pop music.

Music clubs and theatres offering a repertoire open to all people without regard to their language differences are plentiful. Or if you prefer this could be replaced by a pleasant experience from, for example, a walk in one the most interesting European Zoos in Prague Troja. Try a ride on a Prague cruiser on the Vltava river or stretching your muscles on bicycle routes leading even through the historical centre. If you like sport, there are indoor swimming pools and hundreds of sports fields for myriads of sports from golf and tennis through to a bobsleigh run, skateboarding and in-line skating.

More links to Prague:

<http://conference.district59.org/prague.php>

## Prague Spring into Action

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# Networking & Promoting Toastmasters in



**In Germany Thomas Löb founded a forum in XING. He invited a lot of Toastmasters - meanwhile over 500 members in this forum - to discuss and connect themselves.**

In Xing category "Verbände und Organisationen" (associations & organizations) exists since July 2007 the Group "Toastmasters International":

<https://www.xing.com/net/tmi/>

Xing.com (in the past known as OpenBC = open business club) is an online Social Business Network Group (founded in Hamburg, Germany, meanwhile worldwide and quoted on the stock exchange since 12/2006) just like the market leader of the USA linkedIn.com. Like in LinkedIn.com (11 Mio. users) we founded a Toastmasters Group and linked the members in Xing.



In Xing you can as well browse easily through business profiles and establish contact (search professionally for

specific contacts) as well as benefit from a variety of open forums or even experience exchange in regional or business communities.

Additionally we have the possibility to **publish events in a common calendar** for the public or for a specific target group in our own calendar. Feedback via links in the invitation eases up the administration and equals an entire contact management system. This is extremely valuable to acquire and gain new regional club members !

In Xing there are over 2000 members from a total of 4 Million members who publish their interest in Toastmasters. Which is why I had already at the district conference in 11/2006 in Cologne the idea to found a Group in XING.

With Laurent J.V. Dubois I made this tangible and achievable. Meanwhile we gained since July 2007 **more than 500 members** and interested people of Toastmasters, we communicate in three

languages: **English, German and French** and have 6 moderators from France, UK, Germany, Austria, USA and South-Afrika.

The goal of this group is to support existing clubs so that interested people can get to know Toastmasters and the idea behind it. Also that we can share better successful material and excellent practices among each other. Another goal is to make it easy for Vice Presidents of Public Relations to handle their internal club work better.

Last but not least we provide the members with this group the platform to get help or get coached when they encounter questions. Of course this results in a network with each other where we get to know each other better and can care for friendships.



**Thomas Löb**

Moderator & Founder of [www.xing.com/net/tmi/](http://www.xing.com/net/tmi/)



## Abstract in all languages:

### The purpose of this group on Xing is:

- To make known Toastmasters International to the members of Xing.
- to offer an international and multilingual space of discussion and meeting to our members.
- to federate public relations projects and the tools of for the advantage of each of our clubs.

### Le but de ce groupe est :

- de faire connaitre Toastmasters International aux membres de Xing
- d'offrir un espace de discussion et de rencontre international et multilingue à nos membres
- de fédérer les projets et outils de relations publiques au profit de tous les clubs.

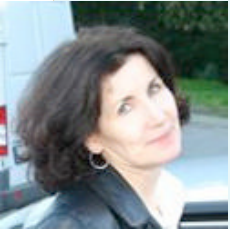
### Die Aufgabe dieser Gruppe in Xing ist es:

- Toastmasters International den Mitgliedern bei Xing näher zu bringen.
- um einen internationalen und multilingualen Raum für Diskussionen und Treffen anderer Mitglieder zu bieten.
- um Projekte der Öffentlichkeitsarbeit und erfolgreiche Praktiken zu vereinen zum Vorteil jedes Clubs.

**Executive Board  
at your Service:**



**Zuzana Grofova**  
District Governor



**Lee Tapia**  
Lieutenant-Governor  
Education & Training



**Greg Palmer**  
Lieutenant-Governor  
Marketing



**Ellen Hermens**  
District PR Officer



**Barbara Jo Kevan**  
Secretary



**Jitka Rubesova**  
Treasurer



**Christopher Magyar**  
Immediate Past  
District Governor

## Call for the Nominations for

### ***The Golden Quill Award***

The best club newsletter: please forward your nominations and the Jury will take care.

### ***The Sparkling Pixel Award***

We look for the best club website. You think your club's website is fantastic - then nominate it.

***Nominate  
your club's newsletter or website  
until March 15th 2008.***

You find details on [www.district59.org/awards.html](http://www.district59.org/awards.html)

***Send in your stories & articles & events for the next Clarion:***

Next Clarion's deadline is April 6th, 2008.

Spring Greetings

**Ellen Hermens**

District Public Relations Officer  
[pro-district59@advance4you.de](mailto:pro-district59@advance4you.de)



## Officer Corner

### **Last chance for „Old Competent Leader“ (OCL)**

Remember the transition time of introducing the New Competent Leadership manual is nearly up. As officer and Competent Communicator you have just a few months left to achieve your OCL.

Find details and application forms on

[http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/MemberExperience/  
EducationalProgram.aspx](http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/MemberExperience/EducationalProgram.aspx)

### **Promote New Leadership Track**

You can promote the New Leadership Manual in an Educational Session of the „Successful Club Series“ called „Setting the Stage for Success: Meeting Roles and Responsibilities „

You introduce the manual, roles & responsibilities and gain credits toward the Old CL or the Advanced Leader Bronze.

Feel free to contact me on either topic

[pro-district59@advance4you.de](mailto:pro-district59@advance4you.de)

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