

Valley Voice

The VP of Education Speaks



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DCP Rundown

- **2 Competent Communicators**
- Need 2 more Competent Communicators
- **1 Advanced Communicator**
- **1 more Advanced Communicator**
- **1 Competent Leader**
- **1 more Competent Leader**
- **Enrolled 4 new members**
- 4 more new members (need 1 more)
- **7 officers trained in June and July; and 7 club officers trained in December and January**
- **Submitted Fall and Spring dues report and 2 club officer list to International on time**
- **We have reached 8 of our goals!**

The VP of Education supports all club members in achieving their personal Toastmaster goals.

One of the VPE's major responsibilities is to prepare the schedule which assigns roles for each weekly meeting. This is usually done on a monthly basis and published to all club members via email. In addition, a separate email is sent each week identifying role assignments for the next scheduled meeting.

There is always an open request to all members that they keep the VPE informed of any scheduled absences for the coming month, any requests for speaking slots, and any particular roles they want to fulfill or avoid for the next month. Without this information, it becomes very difficult to prepare useful meeting schedules. I appreciate all the help that the members of Valley Toastmasters give me!

Another important responsibility of the VPE is tracking

Education and Leadership awards for club members. When a member completes the requirements for a Toastmaster Communication or Leadership award, the VPE takes care of the paperwork and submits the award application to Toastmasters International.

The VPE also monitors Valley's progress in the Distinguished Club Program (DCP). Valley has received a Presidents Distinguished Cub ribbon every year since 2002 (See "DCP Rundown" for our current DCP status.). The VPE also reports to the Executive Committee each month on our DCP status. Working with members to identify meeting roles needed to complete Leadership or Communication awards that support the DCP is one of the more rewarding parts of being the VPE.

The Vice President of Education also chairs the Education Committee. One of my major goals for the coming year is to resurrect



Mike Freeman
VP of Education

the Education Committee and make it an important part of Valley's education process.

As of the end of April, Valley has reached 8 of our DCP goals. We will achieve the 9 goals required to be a President's Distinguished Club very early in May. All Valley members helped make this possible. Thank you! You make being the VPE a joy!

Contact Mike at
VPEd@valleytoastmasters.net

Win a *Valley Voice* prize! Find the "secret sentence" for a magnificent gift. Email Susan and tell her where you found it.

April Special Speakers

April 3 “April Fools”

Jeff Coury presented his seventh speech toward his CC, “Entrepreneurs.” In his quest toward being an entrepreneur, Jeff discovered that a true entrepreneur accepts full responsibility for an outcome and organizes resources in a new and valuable way. A system may be in place, but the successful entrepreneur looks for opportunities to improve it.

Julia Sayre gave her second speech from the *Successful Club Series*, “The Toastmasters Educational Program” to earn her ALB. By using a flip chart, Julia was able to show us how both the communication and leadership tracks work. Julia took us through the Communication Track from Competent Communicator through Advanced Communicator Gold. Then Julia took us from Competent Leader through Advanced Leader Silver. We could clearly see the paths to Distinguished Toastmaster.

April 10 “25th Anniversary Open House”

Jason Mostoller presented his fifth speech from the *Competent Communication* manual, “What Toastmasters Means to Me.” Jason chose this particular topic because Valley was celebrating its 25 years as a Toastmasters Club, and he wanted to share with members and guests what being in the club meant to him. After successfully avoiding speaking for 27 years, Jason had to come out of hiding when he became an insurance agent. Jason shared how his feelings have moved from anxiety to excitement since that first

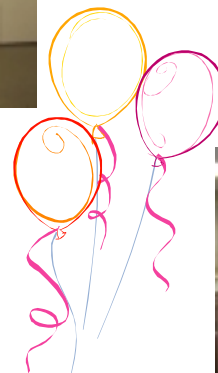
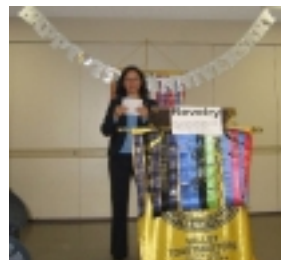
adrenaline-filled Ice Breaker. Jason’s goal is to express his passion and convey it to an audience.

Liz Bebo defined the process of learning for the student and teacher with her story of tutoring Courtney. “Pure Gold” was a project from the *Speaking to Inform* advanced manual. Liz set Courtney’s seat across from her at the front of the room. We took Courtney’s journey from looking at the story behind the picture and understanding that different tasks we do may not make sense until they come together. Liz showed us that when the “light bulb” goes on, we are golden.

“Did you know that we are all judges? Consciously or subconsciously we judge and categorize every person we encounter, based in great part by the clothes [they] are wearing.” from 2008 April *TOASTMASTER* magazine.

VALLEY CELEBRATES 25 YEARS AS TOASTMASTERS CLUB WITH OPEN HOUSE

VPPR Arleen Foster and **VPM Lucinda McNeil** spearheaded the Open House Valley Toastmasters held on April 10 to commemorate its Silver Anniversary. District Leaders **Brenda Bird**, **Jeff Morud**, **Susan Ball**, and **Lori Wieters** joined in the celebration. Two past members and four new guests attended. **Lori Peck** decorated the room in a festive manner, and **Jason Mostoller**, **Darren Desmond**, and **Cecilia Cusimano** brought the tasty food and drinks. Toastmaster **Sallie McGuire** was the perfect host to entertain us and keep the meeting on track. All enjoyed the merriment. **Jason** and **Liz** were special speakers.



April Speakers continued...

April 17 “Bondage”

Lucinda McNeil presented her fifth speech toward her ACG from the *Interpersonal Communication* advanced manual, “Seeing is Believing.” A “surefire method” has four steps: state the problem, express controlled emotion, ask for a specific solution, and describe the consequences if a solution is not reached. Lucinda stressed the importance of speaking up immediately. In her role playing with **Darren Desmond**, Lucinda followed her steps, and in a direct, pleasant, and calm manner got the outcome she wanted.

Susan Ball presented her first speech toward her ALB with “Creating the Best Club Climate” from the *Successful Club Series*. In this speech Susan asked the club to look at aspects of a healthy club: the effectiveness of the officers, the participation of members in being on time, prepared, involved, and supportive. She stressed the importance of making a good impression on guests by being friendly and asking them to join. Susan showed

how to have a Win/Win situation in a club by paying attention to continuing members, being courteous and caring toward all members, being considerate, giving excellent evaluations, recognizing achievement, and fostering camaraderie. Susan’s speech was peppered with examples of how Valley Toastmasters does so well. Even so, every club needs a “Climate Checkup” from time to time.

April 24 “National Karaoke Week”

In her tenth speech toward her CC, **Tricia Pitt** inspired us to share more of ourselves in “Inspired by Toastmasters.” Tricia took us on her journey by revealing that her reluctance to share herself in earlier speeches caused much stress. Inspired by the personal revelations of speakers at the C4 Area Speech Contest the night before, Tricia discarded the speech she had been practicing for two weeks and presented this one from the heart and urged us to share ourselves. Congratulations, Tricia, on your CC!

Cecilia Cusimano presented her second speech toward her ACB, “The Mortgage Millionaire,” Project 2 from the *Interpersonal Communication* advanced manual. Cecilia gave us much to think about regarding negotiating skills and investing in our home. She began by presenting the three possible outcomes of a negotiation: Win/Lose, Win/Win, and Lose/Lose. To demonstrate an actual negotiation, Cecilia engaged in role playing with **Steve Meisenheimer** regarding investment strategy in home equity.

Connie Galeener, working on her seventh speech toward her third CC, approached the lectern in a police uniform and hat, without the gun, to present six tips for safe driving: hang up and drive, don’t drive drunk, speed kills, buckle up, share the road, and buyer beware. In a commanding manner, Connie also shared accident-related statistics, facts, examples, and personal experiences. We will all be safer drivers after this speech!

Ribbon Winners



	Best Table Topics	Best Speaker	Best Evaluator	Most Inspiring	Most Improved
April 3	Eric Wilson (guest)	Julia Sayre	Jared Eutsler	Jeff Coury	Jared Eutsler
April 10	Brenda Bird (DG and guest)	Liz Bebo	Lucinda McNeil	Jason Mostoller	Mike Freeman
April 17	Mike Freeman	Lucinda McNeil	Sallie McGuire	Susan Ball	Susan Ball
April 24	No Table Topics	Tricia Pitt	Susan Ball	Tricia Pitt	Tricia Pitt

Contest News



Valley Sweeps Area



Jared and Connie with C4 Area Governor Lori Wieters and Cholla Division Governor Susan Ball.

Support Jared and Connie at the Cholla Division Contest on May 9th at 7:00 P.M

Contestants **Jared Eutsler** and **Connie Galeener** won the International and Evaluation Contests at Area C4 on Wednesday, April 23rd at Western International University in a fierce competition. Jared's International Speech regaled the audience with its humor, pathos, and ethos. Connie captured the audience in her Evaluation Speech with humor, insight, and tone.

Julia Sayre sparkled as Toastmaster with the theme of sailing in international waters. **Tricia Pitt**, as ballot counter, could barely contain herself with the knowledge of the winners before they were announced. Timer **Mike Freeman** was proficient as usual. Cheering on Jared and Connie were **Susan Ball**, **Lucinda McNeil**, **Jason Mostoller** and his wife Kim, **Sallie McGuire**, and Jared's wife Lauren.

Functionary Files

by Sallie McGuire



When you are the Vote Counter. . . .

The duty of the vote counter is to collect the votes for Best Speaker, Best Evaluator, Best Table Topics, and Most Inspiring. You will be called on to present the ribbons toward the end of the meeting. Keep in mind the following:

- You do not vote, except in the event of a tie.
- You may ask another member to help you collect and/or count the ballots.
- You are a neutral party. When you present the awards, **do not** use such phrases as "By a landslide. . . ." or "No surprise to anyone. . . ." This is the secret sentence.
- Be respectful of club members and guests.
- Discreetly dispose of the ballots at the end of the meeting.
- Be enthusiastic!

Meet the Conference Hat Lady



Connie Galeener will be selling raffle tickets at the Spring Conference to raise money for the District to help offset Conference costs. The money goes into the hat. At the end of the evening on May 31, there will be a drawing. The winner will get 1/2 of

what Connie has collected. Connie's goal is to get as much money as possible. Two years ago, the winner of the raffle walked away with over \$900.00. Connie hopes to beat that amount. We think she will!

The April Spotlight is on Jason Mostoller

Although I think everyone knows how much I appreciate Toastmasters, I wanted to share a little bit about how this club has impacted my life.



As you know, a recent career change has forced me out of my comfort zone and into a position that requires me to speak in front of small groups of people. Before I joined Toastmasters, the thought of speaking in front of strangers induced strong feelings of anxiety. I knew this was going to be a huge challenge for me. I joined Valley Toastmasters six months ago after reading an article about the Toastmasters organization. I thought it might help me overcome my fear of public speaking.

I am happy to say that in just a few months, being a member of Toastmasters has helped me more than I could imagine. Over the past few months I've held several informational seminars in the Prescott Valley Area which have yielded many sales! The feelings of excitement have replaced nervousness and anxiety. I actually look forward to speaking in front of people now.

It's hard to believe that just a few months ago, I wouldn't have even considered running these seminars. It feels great to be able to stand in front of people and speak with comfort and confidence, and I owe it all to Valley Toastmasters.

Coming Events

May 9: Cholla Division Evaluation and International Speech Contests, 7:00 P.M., at AmEx Town Hall, 18850 N. 56th Street (101 and 56th Street). Support **Jared** and **Connie!**

May 30-31, June 1: District 3 Spring Conference, Sheraton Crescent Hotel, 2620 W. Dunlap Avenue in Phoenix.

- Friday evening: **Evaluation Contest, Fun Night**
- Saturday: Parade of Banners, Hall of Fame Luncheon, Voting for candidates, Black Ribbon Reception, **International Contest**, DTM ceremony.
- Sunday: Leadership breakfast



Personal Highlights

April Birthdays

Connie Galeener April 18

Taras Collum April 19

Liz Bebo April 22



We're on the Web!

www.valleytoastmasters.net

Valley Toastmasters Club

Valley Voice

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Area 4, Cholla Division, District 3

Club Pride

Gather goodies for Club Pride! Republic Nat'l Distributing Co., **Julia Sayre's** employer, has again generously donated wine for our basket. Think about what goes well with wine, and bring in items that will tantalize the people bidding for it. The most creative basket awards the club five points toward the coveted Club Pride award. Let's win Club Pride in Spring of 2008!



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