

# Valley Voice

## Saying Goodbye and Thank You to the 2008-2009 Valley Toastmaster Officers

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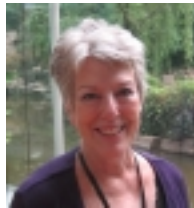
### DCP Update 2008-2009

4 CC's  
1 AC  
1 additional AC  
1 ALB  
1 DTM

4 new members  
4 new members

7 officers trained this summer  
7 officers trained this winter  
Officer list submitted on time this period for 1 point  
Dues renewals submitted on time in October  
Dues renewals submitted on time by April 1

We now have all of our educational and leadership goals and all our professional responsibilities met toward our seventh consecutive year as a Presidents Distinguished club.



Susan Ball  
President



Mike Freeman  
VP Education



Lucinda McNeil  
VP Membership



Fernando de la Rosa  
VP Public Relations



Kathryn Debanon-Rhodes  
Secretary

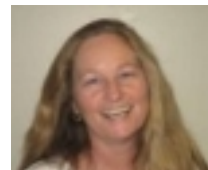


Liz Bebo  
Treasurer



Jason Mostoller  
SAAA

Vice President of Membership for the 2009-2010 Toastmaster year will be **Connie Galeener**. The May issue of *Valley Voice* announced that **Jared Eutsler** would be taking on that office, but Jared's responsibilities at work expanded. In a special election on June 11, Valley Toastmasters elected Connie to fill the office.



## June Special Speakers

### June 4 “Aesop’s Birthday”

**Dean Eckes** presented his ninth speech toward his Competent Communicator educational award, “The Speech.” Dean began with a quote from Machiavelli that he always carried with him but didn’t know why: “This is the tragedy of man: circumstances change and he does not.” Dean recalled his first day at Toastmasters. It took courage to go, to enter the room, and to return. One of Dean’s memorable moments was listening to the tenth speech of a young lady who talked about how hard it was every time she scheduled a speech — how hard it was to get out of the car, enter the room, stand before the audience.



Dean shared with us about meeting his boss from Washington who wanted to know what he did. Before Toastmasters, Dean would have “choked, croaked, and run away.” Having the “courage to change” is what Toastmasters did for Dean, and he urged us to share the Toastmasters vision.

**Wendy Valentine** stepped in at the last moment to fill in for a missing speaker. She shared a story and asked us to help her with incorporating that story into a longer speech. The events took place while Wendy was in college. She needed to study but decided

to clean her messy room instead. Although Wendy hates to clean, she worked hours only to see the fruits of her labor undone. A newly arranged book fell, hitting her soup and throwing soup all over, destroying her hard work.



### June 11 “Flag Day”

**Julia Sayre** presented Project 3 of the *Special Occasion* advanced manual, which places her halfway to her AC-Gold. Julia roasted exiting Valley President **Susan Ball**. Using a combination of wit, humor, and satire, Julia presented Susan with the “Foot in Mouth Award” for telling Kathryn’s son his mommy was a liar. Julia jokingly explained how we all listen carefully to Susan to try to understand what she is saying. Julia gently mentioned that the rest of the club members might have opinions, too. By the end of the roast, Julia fulfilled Susan’s dream of becoming Queen — for just two weeks.



**Sallie McGuire** presented Project 4 of the *Storytelling* advanced manual with a touching story about Steve Hutchison, who re-enlisted in the army at age 57 after the death of his wife. He was the father-figure in his unit and a practical joker. When he found Princess Leia, a golden Lab puppy, he also found joy. Because the army forbids adoption of animals, Steve did whatever he could to keep her. His mood improved 1000%. “Operation Baghdad Pups,” a special branch of the SPCA, helped him get the puppy to the U.S. Princess Leia was saved from almost certain death, but Major Hutchison was killed in Iraq, the oldest soldier to be killed. He was 60.



### June 18 “Father’s Day”

**Dean Eckes** presented Project 10 of the *Competent Communicator* manual, “The Promise.” Dean found himself remembering his Cub Scout promise to do his best to God, his country, others at the milestone of giving his tenth speech. Dean recalled being shocked in the ‘60’s at protestors burning the flag. Dean’s mother

explained that in America, one could do that. Again, years later Dean found it hard to understand why people desecrated the flag. For the second time his mother explained that she did not understand, but in America people could do that. Dean shared a letter from an Australian that defined an American. We are diverse; we are free; we are generous and helpful. Congratulations, Dean, for earning your CC educational award.



**Steve Meisenheimer** presented Project 10 in the *Competent Communication* manual, the opening of a speech to a group of business leaders, “The Effective Leader Series.” He asked us to look at two aspects of his speech: is the introduction engaging and does it speak to our interests in these times? Steve began with a statistic about the possibility that there has been a 30% drop in company sales. Although leaders were cutting costs and becoming more efficient, Steve wanted to hear that they were allocating resources more efficiently. Steve’s story about his own experience as a business leader helped set the stage for the next part of the speech.



**Welcome to our two new members, Wendy Valentine and Barbara Bailey! They are examining their Toastmaster pins.**



## Special Speakers *continued*

### June 25 “National Camping Week”

**Jason Mostoller** presented his second speech from the *Entertaining Speaker* advanced manual, “Escape to Freedom.” Jason took us on an adventure of his mother-in-law Rita, who lived in East Germany after the war. Rita’s mother refused to leave because she hoped her husband was still alive, a decision that paid off when he returned after his release from a Russian prison camp seven years later. The details of their escape to West Germany were thrilling. Rita was eight years old when the family arrived by subway in West Berlin. Jason reminded us that we should not take our freedom for granted.



**Ruthie Barnes** presented Project 5 from the CC manual, “*Moi, Moi, Moi.*” Ruthie led us on her Salt River tubing experience with vivid description of scorching heat and white water rapids because she took “the road less traveled.” We saw the water tossing and slamming Ruthie into a tree and heard her screaming for help while bobbing up and down in the water. Finally, Ruthie was pulled onto the bank, safe but exasperated and choked up. Back to her car, an exhausted Ruthie fell asleep. When she awoke, Ruthie thought, “That was a good trip. I think I’ll try that again.”



## Table Topics for Learning, Fun, and Inspiration

**Table Topics Master Kathryn Debano-Rhodes** brought fables and fairy tales in keeping with the theme, **Aesop’s Birthday**. **Lori Peck** thought that an Emperor should wear the perfect clothes with gold and riches. **Mike Freeman** believed that focusing on the prize like the tortoise was an important lesson today.

**Ruthie Barnes** compared her life to the country mouse. It was hard moving to the city.

**Table Topics Master John Bigley** gave participants pieces of The Pledge of Allegiance on which to comment for the theme, **Flag Day**. **Mike Freeman** said “I pledge allegiance to the flag...” reminded him of a Red Skelton skit. **Lori Peck** had “one Nation under God” and said we are a country of different beliefs. **Barbara Bailey** interpreted “indivisible” as we are all together and will stay together. We need to become not as “thing-oriented” but people-oriented. **Susan Ball** said “with Liberty and Justice for all” means all people are free to express themselves. She hopes the Supreme Court justices will go beyond their beliefs and honor their oath to serve the country.

**Substitute Table Topics Master Kathryn Debano-Rhodes** and **Table Topics Master Wendy Valentine** asked questions relating to **Father’s Day**. **Lori Peck** recalled special moments with her dad. **Connie Galeener** talked about her dad’s wisdom. **Barbara Bailey** compared her husband to her father. Guest **Carmen** had no television dads with which to compare her father. **Jason Mostoller** had no experience with stay-at-home fathers, but he thought it was a good idea, especially in this economy.

Table Topics *continued on p.4*

## Ribbon Winners



	Best Table Topics	Best Speaker	Best Evaluator	Most Inspiring	Most Improved
June 4	Mike Freeman	Dean Eckes	Sallie McGuire	Dean Eckes	Wendy Valentine
June 11	Susan Ball	Julia Sayre	Connie Galeener	Sallie McGuire	John Bigley
June 18	Lori Peck	Dean Eckes	Susan Ball	Dean Eckes	Susan Ball
June 25	Steve Meisenheimer	Ruthie Barnes	Lori Peck	Jason Mostoller	Sallie McGuire

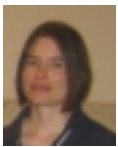


## The June Spotlight is on The Three Valley Girls

Three Valley members began the Toastmaster year last July as Area Governors. Here is a follow-up report on the activities of **Connie Galeener**, **Sallie McGuire**, and **Julia Sayre**, our own Valley Girls:



Connie was happy to provide answers and to guide officers of the C3 clubs to answers via Toastmasters websites. Contests were fun and friendly. The next C3 Area Governor is from one of the C3 clubs. Connie advises anyone becoming a leader to create a committee, divide goals into attainable time frames, and ask for help before an anticipated situation becomes overwhelming.



Sallie reported attending lots of meetings and meeting lots of new people. She enjoyed observing some of the inner workings of the Toastmasters machine. Sallie admits to procrastinating on deadlines, not asking for enough help from others, and letting "real life" be a priority. Overall, however, Sallie was grateful for the opportunity to serve Toastmasters as an Area Governor. She cherishes the people she met and the things that took her outside her comfort zone.



Julia says serving in P4 was both challenging and rewarding. She enjoyed making club visits, inducting new officers, and making new friends. Julia found it rewarding to see some of the club officers grow into their understanding of the Toastmasters program. Over the course of the year, Julia learned about how our District accomplishes its responsibilities to the clubs and how clubs interpret the Toastmasters program. Julia reports the experience was well worth the effort and work required.

### Table Topics continued

Table Topics Master **Susan Ball** gave participants a choice of topics relating to theme, **National Camping Day**.

**Steve Meisenheimer** does not enjoy camping. There is nothing redeeming about it. Steve recalled a time he went fishing, an experience even worse than camping because of baiting a hook with a wiggly worm and disengaging the hook from a fish.

**Sallie McGuire** countered Steve's opinion of camping by describing the joys of exploring, getting sweaty and dirty, and offering an opportunity to get out of a comfort zone. Sallie went on to describe her favorite camping trip to Mesa Verde where she made friends with two cats trying to get into her tent.

### Editor's Note

It has been my pleasure to be the *Valley Voice* editor for the past two years, but it's time to turn over the job to a new editor. This person will carry on the tradition of producing an award-winning newsletter but put a new face on it. Contributing editor Sallie McGuire will begin as editor on July 1, 2009. Many thanks to all who contributed ideas and articles and to Sallie, Julia, and Mike who helped me every month produce the *Valley Voice*. Susan

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### Coming Events

#### TLI DATES

**Saturday, July 11, in Tucson,  
8:00AM-12:30PM**

**Saturday, July 18, Tempe, 8:00  
AM-12:30PM**

#### VALLEY SOCIAL EVENT

**Sunday, July 12, Bead Museum,  
5754 W. Glenn Dr., Glendale,  
1:00 PM**

#### NEW TOASTMASTER YEAR

#### BEGINS

**July 1, 2009**

### Valley Toastmasters Club

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We're on the Web!  
[www.valleytoastmasters.net](http://www.valleytoastmasters.net)

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