



Club Officers

President:

Pedro Serrano-Navarro
serrano@scripps.edu

VP Education:

Marta Comellas Aragones
comellas@scripps.edu

VP Membership:

Ya-Wen Liu
ywliu@scripps.edu

VP Public Relations:

Yen-Ru Pan
yenrup@scripps.edu

Treasurer:

Michael Saure
msaure@scripps.edu

Secretary:

Priti Deka
deka@scripps.edu

Sergeant-at-Arms:

Sebastian Enck
encks@scripps.edu

Educational Moment

The Competent Leadership manual; make use of it!

Communication is not only about giving speeches; there are many other situations that involve good communication skills. Therefore Toastmasters is not only about giving speeches, there is much more to learn and do in the club. As for example: serving as functionary in a meeting (as timer, grammarian, evaluator...), taking part on the Table Topics, or even being officer in the club and getting involved in the organization and planning. All these roles allow you to practice skills that will help you gain self-confidence in many ways: academically, professionally and personally. All these additional tasks in the Toastmasters meetings are recognized and rewarded with the Competent Leadership (CL) program and the only thing you need to do is to make use of the CL manual.

- What is the Competent Leadership program?

The CL program offers training in time management, organization, planning, and critical thinking. The projects in the CL manual provide you with opportunities to build your leadership skills by serving in various Toastmasters meeting roles. By completing the projects, you practice different skills required in many situations in life, as for example when you work within a team or when you are asked for an opinion in a job interview or meeting.

- How do you use the Competent Leadership manual?

In the manual there are ten projects and each of them focuses on a different leadership skill. Each project gives first a short introduction about the skill and then an assignment. The assignment consists in most cases of serving in a certain number of functionary roles from the ones suggested.

To get credit, you need not only to serve as functionary, but must also be evaluated. Therefore it is important that when you are assigned a functionary role, at the beginning of the meeting you give your manual to a member in the room who will write an evaluation for you.

- What do you get from it?

Once all projects are completed, you need to give a copy of the project completion record to the VPE of the club and you will be presented with the Competent Leader award. You will then have helped yourself by training your leadership skills, but you will also have helped the club by completing one of the requirements to get the club Distinguished award.

Dues are due! Please make a check to SOS Toastmasters for \$48. Please give it to Mike Saure, or send to him at BCC-265.

Recycle your old Toastmaster magazines. Bring them to Ya-Wen to use in guest packets and to Yen-Ru for Open Houses.

Congratulations to Yen-Ru for successfully accomplishing the 10 Competent Communicator Speeches. Well done!



Let's support Joann and Sebastian as they represent us at the Area 17 Speech contest on Friday, September 23rd, 6:30pm at our CIMBio building. Good Luck!

Member Profile

Simi Razavian

Date joined TM: Joined Salkie Talkie 2008 and SOS 2011 in March

Hometown: Iran

What do you do for a living? I am a licensed architect specialized in passive solar design which is using free energy from sun, wind, water and thermal mass to reduce energy consumption and create healthy homes.

What do you like to do for fun? Site seeing, Travel, walking near the ocean

What do you like about Toastmasters, and why do you continue? Toastmasters has helped me to overcome the fear of public speaking and has boost my confidence as an immigrant woman.

Accomplishment Corner

My experience to become an Advanced Communicator Bronze is difficult to separate from my Toastmasters experience as a whole. I joined Toastmasters about 2.5 years ago and although I found it at first a very “school-like” organization, I am very glad Toastmasters is as organized as it is. Without the tight guidelines I probably would not have had such a rich Toastmasters experience. Initially I wondered if a lab-rat like me would have the time to go to a weekly meeting with experiments running late and short notice things to do. However, Debbie tricked me with a challenge when she recruited me. She said: Toastmasters is also about arranging your schedule in a way you can make the meeting every week. Until today, this challenge keeps me coming to the meetings almost every week. And because SOS Toastmasters is such a conglomerate of creative minds the meetings are never boring or school-like.

Over the years as a member, a mentor and an officer I learned several skills. The most surprising to me is my experience as an officer. A shy person by nature I tended to do things myself before asking other people to complete jobs. Easily overwhelmed I had to start delegating tasks concerning the club pretty fast. But also growing up in a more “grumpy” German culture being an officer of our club also taught me the more American way, namely, how to motivate people with optimism and enthusiasm instead of “barking” orders at others. The experience of inspiring others as an advanced speaker and mentor is also very rewarding and I never would have thought myself to be a source of inspiration.

What about the Advanced Communicator manual? The variety of Advanced Manuals allowed me to tackle more specific problems that concentrate more on the contents of a speech than on the how to give a speech. I don't think of myself as a very funny person or a very good entertainer. To put me out of my comfort zone, I therefore choose to do the Entertaining Speaker manual and Storytelling manual. Both are designed to get me out of my shy corner and stand my ground. Because we have very thoughtful officers we have all Advanced Manuals available as a resource for everybody to browse through and get an idea of the projects.

To finalize my praise, I want to advertise the market value of Toastmasters. At least in the US, Toastmasters is a well-recognized program, worthwhile putting on your resume. Last week I had an interview for a teaching position at UCSD. Being an active member of Toastmasters was valued highly when I presented myself as a non-native speaker with an accent and might help me to get the job.

Go sign up for a speech and thrive, help other members and make Scripps Outstanding Speakers the happy place that it is.

Sylvia Neumann, Advanced Communicator Bronze