



Upcoming Events:

9/8: Club Humor Speech and Speech Evaluation Contests. Join us for an hour of fun. Noon-1:00 PM in room R1/4V8.

9/25: Area C4 Humor Speech & Evaluation Contests, 5:30-7:30PM El Segundo Library, \$8 prepaid, \$10 at door, Sheila 310-334-0569.

9/1-9/30: Membership Drive all month long. Invite your associates to join you at a meeting. Let's get the Smedley Award!

August Statistics

Number of Guests	5
Number of New Members	1
# of Returning Members	3
Avg Attendance/Meeting	11.5
Total Speeches for Month	5
# Meetings on Time	2

Headlines

- ❖ Member Testimonial: Nadeeka Yapa
- ❖ Humor/Evaluation Contest
- ❖ Club Achievement: Phoenix Award
- ❖ Membership Drive: September
- ❖ Meeting Attendance
- ❖ Project Completion Records

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**Member Testimonial:
Nadeeka Yapa**

How many people feel that when you get in front of a crowd of people, everyone is just waiting for you to trip up? Irrational fears are the hardest to overcome.



Recently, I presented to 150 people -- one of the largest crowds I've ever presented to. Not only that, but it was a tough speech for me. It was a persuasive speech, and in order to persuade someone, you have to project sincerity and credibility. But how can you do this when you are trembling in fear of 150 pairs of critical eyes?

I got there on the morning of the speech, extremely nervous. Seeing the stage and getting a microphone set up for myself only made me more anxious. But then I got my most unpleasant surprise. There was no lectern! The lectern is my biggest crutch. I love to hide behind it, separating myself physically and mentally from the audience.

I had two options. I could take the safe

route, not putting any emotion in my voice and trying to make a cohesive, logical argument. But instead, I decided to push myself out of my comfort zone. I used all my Toastmasters tricks, which I had practiced by attending the meetings. I raised the volume of my voice, because I knew this would convince my audience (and myself!) that I was confident. I kept an open body stance, leaned forward, and made eye contact with as many people as possible, because I knew this would keep their attention and project sincerity.

Just a few months ago, I was so nervous about answering a Table Topics question in front of 10 friendly fellow Toastmasters members that I barely made it over a minute, and my response was littered with deadwood and silence. I say that if I could take the first step in overcoming my fears, anyone else can too.

Nadeeka has been with Raytheon for 1 1/2 years. She is currently a systems engineer for the Raytheon Multiple Hypothesis Tracker team. She joined Toastmasters in April after moving to El Segundo. In her spare time, she enjoys learning to dance, trying to cook, and watching Star Trek.

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Humor/Evaluation Contest Days Away!

Club Imperial's Humor Speech and Evaluation contest is just days away. It will be held on Monday, Sept 8, from noon to 1 PM in R01/4V8. Feel free to bring your lunch, and join us for some rollicking entertainment. All club members should attend to support those who will represent



Imperial at the Area C4 contest. Let's pack the house!

Area C4's Humor Speech and Evaluation contest is Thursday, Sept 25, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at the El Segundo library on Mariposa. The cost per person is \$8 if prepaid or \$10 at the door. The winners of the club contest will gain free entry compliments of the club. Contact Sheila Shaffer, 310-334-0569, for information, number of tickets, or where to send payment.

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Club Achievement

On August 24th, Imperial Toastmasters was presented the Phoenix Award at a banquet presentation held at the Proud Bird. Club President David Lucio was on hand to receive the award which is bestowed upon clubs that started the year with fewer than 13 members and reached Distinguished status. The beautiful, crystal award will be cherished by Imperial in recognition of its own rebirth. Congratulations!

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Membership Drive All September Long

All September long is the membership drive for the Smedley Award. Ralph Smedley held the first meeting of what he would later name The Toastmasters Club in the basement of a Santa Ana YMCA in 1924. He recognized that many people needed training in communication and leadership skills.

In his honor, Toastmasters presents awards to clubs that add five (5) new members during the month of September. Let's all strive to honor Ralph Smedley by sharing his vision with at least two others the first two weeks of September, one per week.

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Meeting Attendance

Congratulations to everyone who was able to make Toastmasters meetings this

month! As noted in the statistics box on page 1, our August meetings averaged more than eleven members per meeting. Good work! That's an improvement, but we can do better. Our goal is an average of 15 attendees per meeting. New members will help us achieve that goal. P.S. Guests are included in that count, so invite many and invite often!

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Project Completion Records

Members, ensure one of the club officers signs your Project Completion Record in the back of your Competent Communication and Competent Leadership manuals. Officers, please make yourselves available at the end of meetings to sign these records for our members.

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Letters to the editor and all submissions can be sent to Donald_Cherf@raytheon.com.

The information in this newsletter is for the sole use of Toastmasters members for Toastmasters business only. It is not to be used for solicitation and distribution of non-Toastmasters materials or information.

Officers

President	David Lucio
VP Education	Gautam Misra
VP Membership	Mark Connaughton
VP Public Relations	Donald Cherf
Secretary	Sheila Shaffer
Treasurer	Scott Avent
Sergeant at Arms	Jennifer Do

Annual Club Goals: President s Club

	current	required	additional
Membership	13	20	-
New members	1	4	4
New CCs	0	2	2
New ACBs,ACS,ACGs	0	1	1
New CLs,ALs,DTMs	0	1	1
Officers Trained	7	✓4	4
Dues Notice Submitted	no	yes	n/a
Officer List Submitted	yes	✓yes	n/a