



The Club Support Team

By Karen Moriao, DTM

Does your small club have difficulty filling meeting roles? Do your members often juggle more than one role in meetings? A new resource is ready to help your club fill meeting roles. This will allow the members to focus on the meeting and make the club more attractive to visitors - prospective new members.

A private Facebook group, Toastmasters District 115 Club Support Team, has launched and provides an easy way to request help filling specific meeting roles at your upcoming meeting. Members of the Club Support Team are experienced Toastmasters who have made themselves available to attend meetings on request and fill open meeting roles.



Clubs that would like to participate can ask to join the Facebook group by agreeing to a few guidelines. The club designates one or two members to join the group and request assistance with upcoming meeting roles as needed, once all available club members have been assigned a role.

Additionally a spreadsheet containing contact information of all of the Club Support Team members is under development. This filterable spreadsheet can help club representatives quickly identify Support Team members who are available for your club's meeting time and day and reach out to them directly. This will be a living document stored in Google Drive. Access will be granted to club

representatives on request.

Any Toastmasters club member can volunteer to serve on the Club Support Team. It's a wonderful way to experience different clubs, hear new speakers and make new friends. Just navigate to the Facebook group and request to join. You will be asked to agree to a few guidelines. By joining, you commit to visiting the group often to see if you are available to respond to any requests from clubs to fill upcoming meeting roles.

This program is intended to support small clubs while they work to attract new members. Members of the Club Support Team are not expected, and should not be asked to join the club. The goal is for the supported clubs to grow through their own efforts and eventually not need support.

A PowerPoint tutorial has been developed to explain how the program works and the guidelines for participation. To get a copy and to familiarize yourself with the program please contact Karen Moriao DTM for more information at kjmoirao@gmail.com

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Fifteen Years and Counting

By Lorrie Linnert, DTM

Congratulations to Viva Las Voices! The club, celebrating its 15th year was founded on September 20, 2006. It was sponsored by two distinguished clubs: Chamber Voices and Northern Voices. The club's sponsors were Darrell Harmon from Northern Voices and Corrinne Shearer from the City of Las Vegas Department of Human Resources.



Lorrie Linnert, DTM served as the Toastmaster for Viva Las Voices' 15-year Anniversary Celebration

Although the club started as a closed club for city employees, it was opened to the community in 2008. Viva Las Voices has been building quality speakers and leaders at the City of Las Vegas and the community for 15 years. Club members have earned 75 educational awards since chartering. The club has been distinguished or better 9 times, and club members have competed in speech contests all the way to the district level.

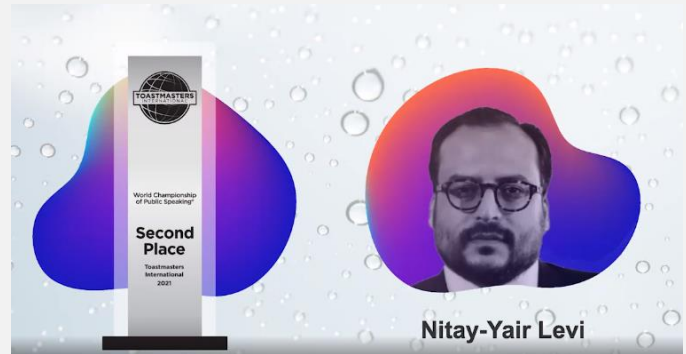
Viva Las Voices meets at City Hall, 495 S. Main Street, Las Vegas in the 5th Floor Conference Room. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 11:00 am. For more information please visit the club's website.

<http://869803.toastmastersclubs.org/>.

Viva Las Voices!

“The second place winner is....Nitay-Yair Levi!”

By Diane Hunter, DTM
Jackpot Speakers



OMG! Jump for joy! One of our own won second place in the 2021 World Championship of Public Speaking!

Jackpot Speakers' purpose in chartering was to help members advance in contests. From 2003-2018 nearly one-third of District 33's contest winners (20 of 62) were members of **Jackpot Speakers**.

Las Vegas is now its own district (115), and we continue to succeed. **Jackpot's** usual format drops most regular meeting roles and focuses on speeches and round robin evaluations. Both members and guests give extended feedback hence our tagline – Home of the 30-Minute Evaluation. Our speakers – from beginners to advanced - improve more quickly due to our experienced members' high quality feedback and willingness to share their knowledge. Also, we record all speeches so members and mentors can review them together.

But don't take my word for it. Ed Tate, CSP (<http://edtate.com>), the 2000 World Champion of Public Speaking, writes “*In mid 2016 I had a presentation to over 12,000 people. The largest and most important of my career. On multiple occasions Jackpot Speakers allowed me to test my content. I got great, detailed feedback, made adjustments and got*



a standing ovation! Most people are not serious about getting better. Don't be like most people! Join Jackpot Speakers - the best toastmasters club in the Las Vegas metro area!"

Our members shine outside of Toastmasters too. Susie Johnson completed her first TEDx talk last January at TEDx Tenaya Paseo, organized by member Sarah Lawrence. Kudos to both on their success!

We aren't ONLY serious worker bees though. **FUN** is also part of our **Fab-U-lous-Ness!** (Yes, OK, I had to reach for that one!)

This year Halloween falls on a Sunday. Like Mad Hatters, we're in a tizzy preparing hats, costumes AND spooky stories for a tall tales contest!

We invite you to experience our warm, friendly atmosphere for yourself. Our international club meets online every Sunday 1-3 p.m. pacific time. For our link, please contact Vice-President of Membership Lou Beaton at loubeaton@bigpond.com or President Nadia Gilkes at toastmasternadia@gmail.com.



And don't be afraid that we'll ask you to join because **WE WILL!**



Wake Up With Toastmasters
Monday through Friday, 6:00 am
[FaceBook.com/TMD115CGD](https://www.facebook.com/TMD115CGD).

Monday, October 4, 2021, 6:30 - 7:30pm
Education Forum with Program Quality Director Jean Williams on Zoom. This open forum provides you time to bring your questions and ideas regarding training for you and your club.

Register for this meeting:
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJltfu6sqT8uHtMiXan5EOvxpHF2cEI9qpR>

Educational Enrichment, October 9, 6:00-8:00pm.

Register for this meeting at-
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpcOCorjguGdlxmh4iK65WMUWmCoRaltGj>

6:00 - 7:00 pm:

New Member Orientation presented by Ken Richardson DTM, CGD - meet other new members as you learn about Toastmasters, meeting roles, and what to expect your first year.

Free Toast Host for Members presented by Gene Dunford DTM - learn to sign up, sign in, and choose a role in Free Toast Host - have your questions answered.

Evaluation Workshop presented by Lou Beaton DTM - Learn how to improve your evaluation techniques.

Google Forms by Jennifer Smith PRM - Google Forms is a way to create a shared form for you and your group members to improve the sharing of information.

7:00 - 8:00 pm:

Introduction to Pathways presented by Ken Richardson DTM, CG - designed for new members to learn about Pathways

Free Toast Host for Administrators presented by Gene Dunford DTM - learn to create agendas, sign up new members, and manage your club's website.

Art of Delegation - a panel discussion led by Anita DellaCroce DTM designed to share delegation skills for Toastmasters and business.

Making Toastmasters Work in Your Business presented by Kay Collis DTM PDD PRA - learn how the skills you are learning in Toastmasters will benefit you in business.

Saturday, October 16, 2021 9:00am - 12:00pm
Hall of Fame. Have fun, win prizes, pick up your awards and trophies from the last Toastmasters year, see friends and make new friends. Lots of fun to be had and the ability to partake up to your comfort level. A continental breakfast will be provided. This event will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 5160 West Lone Mountain Road, Las Vegas, NV 89130.

Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:00-8:00 pm
Game Night - Come to see friends and make friends. Bring your non-Toastmaster friends when you come to this virtual event to laugh, play games, and have fun.

Register for Game Night at-
https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcoccuurzotGNP2K_gPRj-T90QWZpbMO0sP

PRM Corner

By Jennifer Smith, PRM

Does your Toastmasters club use “Meetup” to promote your Toastmasters club? Meetup is a Public Relations tool. Meetup is an application/program that is phone friendly. Meetup is used by people in our vicinity to find groups of like-minded people.

Would you like to add your club meeting’s information to the D115 Meetup group?



The district is paying for all District 115 Clubs to be part of the District 115 Meet Up Group. Here is the link [District 115 Toastmasters Meetup Group \(Las Vegas, NV\) | Meetup](#)

Gene Dunford will work with your VP-PR to add your club and get you started. Send an email to genedtm@gmail.com to get into the group.

Some tips to use MeetUp Effectively:

Club members need to support the club’s Meetup outreach. Each club member should mark that they are attending the meeting (it is a simple click of a box). A group showing more members attending will attract people looking to join. People are not likely to visit a group that consistently has only a few members attending.

Prior to the meeting date, check that you are attending. Place a comment before the meeting about why you are attending. After the meeting go on the Meetup listing and add a comment about something you benefitted from attending the meeting. Add pictures to the Meetup page even if it is only your Zoom Box.

Many meetings in the District have gained members by using Meetup effectively. Effectively using Meetup will increase the number of guests at your meeting.

Meetup is a social media platform. You can share the clubs Meetup link on your Free Toast Host website, on your Facebook page, etc.

We appreciate your club and are looking for ways to make your club more successful.

If you have any questions regarding how to use Meetup, please contact Gene Dunford at GeneDTM@gmail.com. We are always here to help you learn and grow.

The Challenge Continues

By District 115 Club Retention Chair,
Sherrie Parker, DTM, PDD

Did your club accept the “One Month – One Action” Challenge yet? If not, you can start now!

Accept the “One Month – One Action” Challenge! I will share three effective club habits that are proven to help clubs thrive. Start a new action for at least a month and add a new “Best Practice” every month for a year. Remember one small step in the right direction still moves you to your destination!

Thank you to all who sent responses to my last article. I will feature excerpts and your Best Practice suggestions in my monthly articles and the District 115 “Best Practices” resource. At the Enrichment Night on September 11th, sixteen Toastmasters shared what works in their clubs and discussed challenges that all our clubs face. Wow! We learned so much from each other! Please attend a future “Best Practices” Workshop. You can brag about what your club does exceptionally well or brainstorm with other leaders about your club’s challenges on Saturday, November 6th at 6:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Choose one (or more) of these actions to implement in October. If you already have these effective habits, please send me details about your club’s success at sparkerflute@hotmail.com.

A. **Make guests feel welcome!** How? Try one or more of these best practices:

1. If meeting online, send electronic guest packets with a follow-up letter to visitors.
2. If meeting in person, hand them a guest packet and explain the contents to them.
3. Use a Google virtual guestbook or actual guestbook to gather contact info and feedback.
4. Open your Zoom or actual room 30 minutes before the meeting to greet your guests and learn about their goals.
5. Stay after the meeting to answer guests’ questions.
6. Invite guests to briefly introduce themselves at the beginning of a meeting and ask them what they thought of the meeting at the end.
7. **ASK THEM TO JOIN!** As a president, I love to say (with a wink and a smile) “Don’t worry that we’ll ask you to join...We WILL!”

B. **Provide your members with helpful evaluations.** Dianne Hunter, DTM, from Jackpot Speakers and Storytellers, refers to

high quality feedback as “honesty delivered kindly.” Do your club members point out what worked well and what could be more effective? Do they include specific examples and recommendations? To help members build confidence and improve their evaluation skills select one of these actions:

1. Use the Pathways Evaluation form and criteria.
2. Provide an evaluation workshop with one of your experienced members or an expert guest.
3. Put “Effective Evaluation” (Item 202) on your club website for members to access or provide copies of it to new members
4. Present “Evaluate to Motivate” from the Successful Club Series (Item 292A.)
5. Provide evaluation tips regularly during meetings. (Educational Moments or VP Ed announcements.)
6. Consider alternate evaluation formats like “Round Robin” evaluations in which speakers receive feedback from multiple people.

C. **Assign mentors to new members immediately.** District 115 Club Support Team Chair, Karen Moirao, DTM, advocates mentors who actively work with their proteges, providing guidance and support. Assigning mentors is one of the most effective ways to engage new members and give veteran members the opportunity to share their experience and contribute back to the club.

I hope this article provides a new “Best Practice” for your club. Please continue sending me your success stories and sharing your experience and expertise. You are only “One Month – One Action” away from a more engaged, enthusiastic club!

Communications, the D115 Newsletter is published monthly. Please send articles, photos, comments and suggestions to CGD Ken Richardson at D115CGD@gmail.com or call 702.523.3023.