



The Metro

Volume 5—February 2009



Toastmasters—Metropolitan Division, District 69



Marilyn Freeman
Metro Division Governor
2009-10

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Can Metro Division Be A Distinguished Division 2009-10?

January 2009: there was a famous speech that went “Yes We Can”.

January 2010, unlike Mr Obama , here in Metro we can say – **Yes We Have!**

- Yes, we have had most clubs attend 1st round Club Officer Training.
- Yes, we have had all our clubs get their 1st membership renewals in on time.
- Yes, we have our members working on their Communication & Leadership awards.
- Yes, we have a dynamic team of Area Govs who have been to District training, made their 1st round visits **and** put **their** reports in on time.

But did you know that TI set all the Districts goals and the big goal is membership. This

gets broken down to smaller targets for the Divisions.

The membership target for Metro up to Dec.31 ‘09 was 608 members. At Dec.31 ‘09 our membership was 634!

- Yes, we have grown our membership and Yes, we exceeded that target!

BUT

What about our challenges in the next 5 months and what can we do:

- 2nd round of membership renewals due April. This is the time members leave if they’re not achieving goals or if club meetings aren’t stimulating.

At Club Officer Training on Sat. 6 Feb, Mark Hunter ran a workshop on how to make our meetings exciting & dynamic; how to build a “Membership Retention Firewall” into club agendas.

(more inside and on Metro website)

- We have 7 clubs in our division struggling with that Catch-22 of 10 members or less. How can we help them?

District Marketing has promised financial support for these clubs if they run a Speechcraft Course in the next 5 months. Can big clubs help here with presenters?

To quote Mr Obama

Can we help smaller clubs out of that low membership spiral? **Yes We Can!**

Can we improve membership retention in this renewals period? **Yes We Can!**

Can we continue to build our membership? **Yes We Can!**

Then the only question left is Can Metro Division be a Distinguished Division?

YES WE CAN!

New Clubs In Metro-This is Bold & Exciting!

The main challenge for all divisions, areas & clubs in the next 5 months is member retention but we need to grow too! Metro is lucky. We have a condensed population, both residential and business. And we **are** tapping into it with 9 new TM clubs in formation:

Healthy Chatterers: Corporate-Qld Health. Redcliffe & Prince Charles Hospitals-need 1 to charter

Agile TM: Business-mainly IT Thurs.5.30-7 pm, 333 Adelaide St.

Narangba TM—Community. Narangba High School. 1st, 3rd & 5th Monday 7-8.45 pm.

Hatch TM (2 clubs) Corporate. Barrack Street & Wharf Streets.

Virgin Blue Bowen Hills (Corporate) Demo. meeting May

PowerLink (Corporate)-Ready to Charter.

Royal Brisbane Hospital—demo meeting due mid-March.

GBST—Corporate/Business Milton-demonstration meeting held 4 February.

News from Area 5



Area 5 Governor
Mark Griffin

It's a new year and a good time for us to reflect upon our new year's resolutions.

It's been very exciting to work with the six clubs in my area for the last six months, and now as the end of this Toastmasters year is in sight we're all keeping a close eye on our Distinguished Club Plans.

I heartily congratulate API who have already reached Distinguished Club status, 6

months into the year. I'm also very encouraged by the progress all 6 clubs have made with their own individual goals for this year.

One of the other true delights that I have as Area Governor is to see the progress that has been made towards establishing a new club in our Area that will be based at the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

We will have a demonstra-

tion meeting at the RBH in mid-March and will have regular fortnightly meetings after that.

If you would like further details about this club, or would be willing to help us out in big ways and small as we get established, then please don't hesitate to email me at m.griffin@uq.edu.au.

Mark Griffin,
Area 5 Governor

News from Area 8



Area 8 Governor
Asoki Jayawardhana

Well into the second half of the TM year and it's time to re-assess the goals set at the beginning of the TM year.

All 6 Clubs in Area 8 have been successful in maintaining membership, and working towards DCP Goals.

Area 8 has plugged in to the various programs provided by Toastmasters, resulting in many new levels achieved by our members in all Clubs.

Peninsula has already reached the level of Distin-

guished Club in the DCP, while all the other Clubs look set to be at least Distinguished by the end of this TM year.

There's a lot of publicity planned for Toastmasters Week 2010 to attract new members. We're also cooperating with Areas 18 and 5 to run a Contest Day on February 21st for Novice Speaker, Tall Tales and Interpretive Reading. It should be a fun filled and educational event and I hope many from Area 8 will attend.

With a successful Conference behind us and exemplary attendance at Club Officer Trainings, we're now revving up for the next round of Club Visits, and the Division and District Contests and Conferences.

I look forward to a busy and fulfilling time ahead, and, with the Clubs of Area 8, embrace the challenge to dare and grow in 2010, through Toastmasters.

Asoki Jayawardhana
Area 8 Governor

News from Area 15



Area 15 Governor
Susan Chisholm

I have commenced the second round of club visits and these are a very enjoyable part of the Area Governor role.

I am always impressed by the creativity and effort members put into their speaking assignments, programs that give all members opportunities to get up and speak, and the emphasis on evaluations.

All clubs are working hard on increasing financial membership so they all achieve charter strength, and on increasing active membership ie increase attendance at meetings.

Dynamic and Ipomoea clubs are planning Speechcraft courses during the first few months of 2010 and two clubs are researching a change of venue.

Area 15 is looking forward to battling it out with the other Metro Area winners at the March Metro Division Conference and of course we are encouraging all Area 5 clubs to support our contestants. A great support team always helps boost a contestant's confidence.

Susan Chisholm
Area 15 Governor

News from Area 18—Area 18 Happenings!

The start of the new year has been frenetic with Narangba-Valley Toastmasters electing its charter executive committee. That Committee has met to discuss forward planning for the club and is running a 6 week speechcraft course at the end of TM Week

The new VPM and VPPR are putting up posters in the Narangba area for this plus advertising the new venue for regular meetings: Narangba Valley High School.

Stafford Heights continue to sign more new members. The

speech craft experience really pays off. Stafford Heights are moving to a new meeting venue in late March, to the Chermide Library. This is also where Advanced Club Chermide Communicators meet.

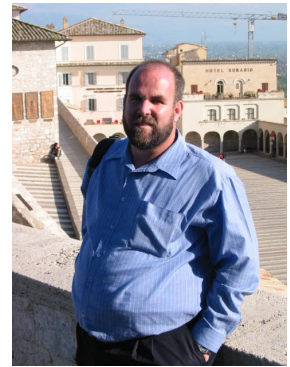
QR Toastmasters VPE Caryn Isserow completed her Competent Communicator early February and was presented with a TM pin by District Governor Coral McVean. Coral also visited Brisbane North Toastmasters early February where they always produce quality meetings.

Metropolitan club officer-training was interesting. Just when I thought I knew it all, I learned something else.

Club officers who haven't attended training yet-Eastern Division training is 21st Feb.

Area 18 continues to surprise and please me with quality of the meetings and the enthusiasm of the members. We have 2 nominations for Area 18 Governor 2010-2011. We will remain in good hands. Keep up the good work.

Rod Luck, Area 18 Governor



Area 18 Governor
Rod Luck

News from Area 19

Welcome everyone to 2010 and another exciting Toastmasters year.

The upcoming Metro Division Conference will certainly be the highlight of the early part of 2010. There will be some amazing competitors and I think the judges will certainly find it challenging.

I am looking forward to listening to World Champion

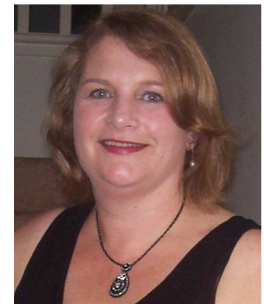
Public Speaker and Metro Division member, Mark Hunter, speak on the day. We are so lucky to have someone of that calibre within our own Division.

The second round of club visits are about to start and I will be in contact with all my clubs shortly to organise dates for those visits.

We are working with District 69 on some great tools

that I can pass on to help with clubs who are having issues with growth and member retention. The Area banner is also available, with Toastmasters week coming up in February, it may be a great time to get the Toastmasters name out and about in your area.

Michele Henselien CC/CL
Area 19 Governor
"Making the Most of Toastmasters"



Area 19 Governor
Michele Henselien

News from Area 21—Area 21

Area 21 is now in full swing for 2010.

Most significant news is the first meeting of the new Agile Toastmasters Club. Agile is being sponsored by the Australian Computer Society, out of their offices Level 7 / 333 Adelaide St, 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays of the month 5.15pm for 5.30 to 6.45pm.

Congratulations to all involved, especially for all those Ice-Breaker speeches!

ACS Club has great new digs at the Brisbane City Council offices cnr of George and Adelaide Sts. Love the professional new look - enjoy!

The first Area exec meeting (Presidents,

VPE's and VP Marketing) will be held 5.30pm, Wed 3rd March, at Level 6 / 300 Adelaide St (please meet in the foyer).

Area 21 will of course be sending their contestants to the Division Conference—let's make sure they have a cheer squad.

Don Graham
Area 21 Gov



Area Governor 21
Don Graham

Metro Division Conference—Be Inspired ... Be Inspiring!

Remember, it's easier to retain the customers or members we have than it is to find new ones!

To **ALL**

Metro Division Toastmasters—
we invite you to the

Metro Division Conference.

Please mark your diaries:

9 am—4 pm, Saturday 20
March 2010

Auditorium Broncos Leagues
Club

Fulcher Road, Redhill

What inspires **you** to be your best?

At the Metro Conference our aim will be to inspire you with some great competitions and an amazing educational session from our very own World Champion Mark Hunter!

Come and hear the best of our division as they compete for a place at District Convention.

Whether you're the competitor, the audience or the support team — the challenge is to be inspiring!

Please see the registration on the following page.

\$36:00 pp for the full day which includes all day tea & coffee, morning tea and full buffet lunch and of course being entertained by the amazing four contests.

Metro Division Conference—

Voting at the Division Council Meeting!

**STOP
PRESS!**

During the Metro Division Conference there will be a Division Council Meeting.

This is where we will formally discuss Metro business plans and goals of the Division.

An agenda item at this council meeting will be the proposed realignment of clubs within Metro for the year 2010-11.

Each club carries 2 votes: one by the President and one by the VP Education.

Proxies:

Presidents and VP Education are encouraged to attend the Division Council meeting.

If one or both are unable to attend, please complete a proxy form and send it with a member of the club who will represent the Club at Division Council.

The proxy form and covering letter will be sent to Club Secretaries shortly. Please look for it.

Registration for the conference & Division Council meeting opens at 8:30 am

There will be a separate registration table for Council Meeting voting slips.

As in club business meetings, Division is required to have a quorum to ratify any business or motions proposed. Please ensure that your club is represented at the Division Council meeting.

Make your vote count!

Email Etiquette—Do You Feel Bombarded?

Bombarded by email? Toastmasters club executives are complaining about the volume of TM email. The District team recently agreed that when

emails are sent direct to clubs we will put the Secretary in the address line—they are to action the email. President, Area and Division Governor

will be in the c.c. line—this is FYI only—don't action or forward unless you know the Secretary is unable to do so. This should ease the load.