



The Conqueror



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Dinner Meetings Every Monday 6:30 p.m. at Lee's Lakeside Restaurant

The Proud and Noble History of Conquerors Club 1066—Part I

Since its founding in 1953, Conquerors Toastmasters Club 1066 has had a proud and noble history! This is the first of a multi-part series on that history.

Wherefore Are We Conquerors?

Why are we called Conquerors? Simple: Conquerors' numerical designation, 1066, also represents the year that William, Duke of Normandy, invaded England and wrested the English throne from Saxon King Harold II, at the Battle of Hastings. Our namesake William thus became the first Norman King of England, and is remembered as "William The Conqueror."

Service to Toastmasters

Conquerors has a proud history of service to Toastmasters in District level and higher office. Four Conquerors have served as District 47 Governor: **Hugh Burgay, DTM** (1969-70); **Karl Righter, DTM** (1973-74); **Paul Meunier, DTM** (2000-01); and **Cathy Epler, DTM** (2001-02). In addition, Conqueror **Nick Carter** reached District 47 Senior Lt. Governor in 1963 but moved to Chicago before he could run for District Governor.

Hugh Burgay, DTM, who achieved President's Distinguished District during his term as

District 47 Governor, is the only Conquerors member so far to serve as an International Director of Toastmasters. But surely not the last—**Paul Meunier, DTM**, who also achieved "President's Distinguished District" during his term, is currently running for Region VIII International Director!

In 2001, **Karl Righter, DTM**, became the only Conqueror ever to receive a Presidential Citation for lifetime achievement from Toastmasters International. Three Conquerors—**Hugh Burgay, DTM**, **Barbara Bergstrom, DTM**, and **Paul Meunier, DTM**, have been named District 47 Toastmaster of the Year.

World Class Club

Toastmasters International used to rank clubs on a worldwide basis. During that time, Conquerors was ranked as the top club in District 47 four times! Also, in 1998-99, Conquerors was at one point ranked as the top Toastmasters club in the world, and finished that year with an official ranking of third worldwide!

Currently, Toastmasters International rates clubs only by whether they achieve Distinguished Club, Select Distinguished Club, or President's Distinguished Club. Under this system, Conquerors consistently achieves the highest level of

honor, President's Distinguished Club. For example, this year, Conquerors achieved the requisite nine out of ten goals for President's Distinguished Club with months to spare!

Most Experienced Member

Conquerors was established in 1953. Sadly, none of the charter members survive as current Conquerors members. Conquerors' most experienced current member is **Earl K. Wood, DTM**, whom you may recognize as the Orange County Tax Collector to whom you pay your taxes.

Conquering Women

Toastmasters International first allowed women members in 1973. In that year, **Susan Torrico**, a pharmacist, became Conquerors' first woman member. **Susan** later became Conquerors' first woman president.

Subsequently, in 1999, **Barbara Bergstrom** became the first Conquerors woman to obtain the rank of DTM. But not the last—current Conquerors women members **Cathy Epler**, **Helen Joseph**, **Dorothy Day Otis**, and **Gale Watzel** also hold the DTM title.

More History to Come

Please give your historical tidbits to the newsletter editor—more Conquerors' history is coming in later issues!



Beach Party a Huge Success!

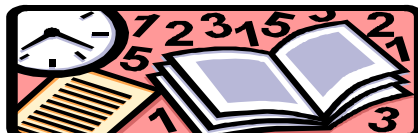
The Joint Conquerors/Winter Park Toastmasters Beach Party on May 4, 2002, graciously hosted by **Karl (DTM) and Rita Righter**, was a huge success! Over 75 members and guests from the two clubs attended. Attendees enjoyed barbeque, beverages (hard and soft), badminton, boating (hey, we've got a "B" thing going here!), volleyball, pool, and great conversation and conviviality!

District 47 Conference and Speech Contest—Support Your Fellow Conquerors!

The District 47 Conference and Speech Contest is swiftly approaching—it is Friday May 17 to Sunday May 19 in Tampa. Registration forms, hotel information, and other information can be obtained at <http://www.toastmastersd47.org>.

Friday night dinner will be the Table Topics Contest (sadly, no Conquerors are competing). Day events on Saturday include various workshops and organizational meetings. Saturday night is the District Officer Installation Dinner and the Speech Contest—with Conqueror's own **Steve Balzer, CTM**, competing!

In addition to supporting **Steve** at the Speech Contest, don't forget that Conquerors has two candidates for District or higher office—**Paul Meunier, DTM**, for Region VIII International Director, and **Michael Joseph, DTM** for Lt. Governor of Marketing. And don't forget that convention attendance is great for enhancing your Toastmasters experience!



Notable Dates

May 17-19, 2002

District 47 Spring
Conference and Speech
Contest (Tampa, Florida)

May 20, 2002

"Speech Boot Camp"
Special Meeting—Tell
Your Friends and Colleagues!!

June 13-15, 2002

Region VIII Conference/Speech
Contest (Baton Rouge, LA)

June 17, 2002

"Host a Murder" Theme Meeting

June 24, 2002

Officer Installation
and Awards Meeting

Steve Balzer Division Winner!

by Jessica Schlenk

Conqueror **Steve Balzer, CTM**, is the new Central Division champion in the International Speech Contest! Supported by over 20 Conquerors members in attendance, **Steve** won the Division Speech contest on Saturday, April 20, 2002.

Steve enthralled the crowd by reprising his "I Gotta Be Me" speech. Toastmaster **Ralph Ber-net** was the runner-up with his speech "The Coin of Human Existence."

The Table Topics competition (sadly, no Conquerors competing) was also exciting. The topic was "Things I Do Not Understand." **Mike Vanden Abul** won discussing the frustrations of planning a wedding. **Irene Reddick** was the runner-up with her talk on injuries and health.

Steve will compete for the Division 47 title at the District Conference, Saturday, May 18, 2002, in Tampa. Come support Steve!

TOASTMASTER CHATTER

If you haven't been to the meetings lately, here is just some of what you have missed: **Paul Meunier, DTM**, singing "I Wish I Was an Oscar Meyer wiener" during Table Topics; **Pete Carrion, ATM**, roasting **Michael Joseph, DTM**, to complete his "Special Occasion" manual, and **Michael's** last-minute notice speech in response; **Barbara Bergstrom, DTM**, sharing early farm experiences in her **15th (!!!)** icebreaker speech; an inspiring patriotic speech from **Pete Carrion, ATM**, about his emotions when his wife was sworn in as a U.S. citizen; **Alan Brents, CTM**, getting water thrown in his face while demonstrating to single men how much harder it is to talk to women at a bar versus a ballroom dance, and then the next week demonstrating how to do the "Electric Slide" at a wedding reception; new member and "ray of light" **Georgia Hill** knocking our socks off with a sizzling ice-breaker; new member **Stephanie McGregor** evoking tears in her ice-breaker speech about her search for her biological father; a hilarious speech from **Paul Meunier, DTM**, about his road trip adventures while running for International Director; the hilarious "People's Court" Table Topics run by Table Topics master and new member **Julius Cszmazia; Anne-Marie Burns, ATM**, in a bathrobe for a "day in the life" monodrama; and **Cindy Rubin** teaching everyone how to say "yes," "no," and "I love you" in sign language.

The April 29, 2002 meeting was outstanding! The uniform impres-

sion from those at the meeting, and those attending the Last Word, was that this was one of those "best-of-year" meetings! Electrifying speeches and table topics, and even electrifying ice-breakers and guest comments—plenty of humor (we're still wondering what part of his body **Paul Meunier, DTM**, leaves wet when faced with a too-small hotel towel)—and a good time for all! If you weren't there, you missed a great meeting!

Gale Watzel, DTM, is not one to rest on her laurels. After earning her DTM, **Gale** has continued progressing, and recently earned her second ATM-Silver designation! Let this be an inspiration to all of us to keep developing our Toastmaster skills!

The Conquerors' editor extends his apologies to **Dennis Jimenez** for misspelling his name in recent awards lists as "**Jiminez**," rather than the correct "**Jimenez**." Sorry about that **Dennis**!

Elliott Wilcox, ATM, presented the keynote address for the Florida Association for Medical Transcription's annual business meeting, on May 3, 2002, in Jacksonville. The address, "Find Your Focus," was a one hour motivational speech on how to achieve your goals. Also, **Elliott** was inducted into the National Speakers Association on April 24th! Congratulations **Elliott**!

Pete Carrion, ATM, has recently earned his ATM-Silver (mere months after obtaining the ATM-Bronze) and CL (Competent Leader) designations! Congratulations **Pete**!

Club 1066 Honor Roll

March 11, 2002

Speaker: Cindy Rubin

Table Topics: Josh Barzey, ATM

Evaluator: Gale Watzel, DTM

Most Improved: Cindy Rubin

Fun and Pun: Jordan Camenker, ATM

April 15, 2002

Speaker: Lynda Miller, CTM

Table Topics: Paul Meunier, DTM

Evaluator: Steve Balzer, CTM

Most Improved: Pete Carrion, ATM

Fun and Pun: Pete Carrion, ATM
Fireball: Micheal Joseph, DTM

April 22, 2002

Speaker: Pete Carrion, ATM

Table Topics: Elliott Wilcox, ATM

Evaluator: Jerome Kalisz, ATM

Most Improved: Dennis Jimenez

Fun and Pun: Dennis Jimenez

Fireball: Steve Balzer, CTM

April 29, 2002

Speaker: Paul Meunier, DTM

Table Topics: Cindy Rubin

Evaluator: Julius Csizmazia

Most Improved: Alan Brents, CTM

Fun and Pun: Paul Meunier, DTM

Fireball: Georgia Hill

May 6, 2002

Speaker: Alan Brents, CTM

Table Topics: Paul Meunier, DTM

Most Improved: Cindy Rubin

Evaluator: Karl Righter, DTM

Fun and Pun: Julius Csizmazia

Fireball: Karl Righter, DTM

The President Speaks

Paul Vonder Heide, CTM

Tradition

Over the years, some of our club traditions have given way to new ones. Those we enjoy today include the Earl K. Wood Scholarship Contest; the Beach Party; the White Elephant Sale; the Miss Florida appearance; the Christmas Party; and the Cam Lusk award.

With rare exceptions, traditions don't start out as such. Someone has an idea that they put into action, and people like it so much that they choose to repeat it again and again. Your good idea today could well be a tradition that Toastmasters will relish for years to come!

As I look over our history, I ponder a question, "Why has our club survived well beyond its expected life span?" We can of course thank God, Orlando's visionary leaders, Lee's Lakeside, and the club members throughout the years. Our fellow Toastmasters provided enthusiasm and commitment. They established traditions unique to our club.

Next year our Orlando Conquerors Toastmasters Club 1066 celebrates its 50th birthday! Our gratitude goes to those individuals who formed the club we love today. Could they imagine then that we would be thriving in the next century?

Upcoming Conventions

May 17-19: District 47 Spring Conference (Tampa, Florida)

June 13-15: Region VIII Conference (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

August 21-24: Toastmasters International Convention (San Antonio, Texas)



Top ten distractions at past club meetings:

10) Lee's exploding dinner rolls on April Fools' Day.

9) The food server with Tourette's Syndrome.

8) The old lectern that kept collapsing when pounded.

7) The bouffant-bashing ceiling fan during the 1970s.

6) The editor typing the bulletin on a manual IBM Selectric typewriter during the meeting.

5) Restaurant staff taking dinner reservations on the wall phone in the meeting room.

4) The frequently flopping microphone that hit the lectern with a thud every few minutes and prompted one speaker to exclaim: "There's a loose nut on the microphone!"

3) The air horn that was used by an Ah Counter to teach stumbling members a lesson.

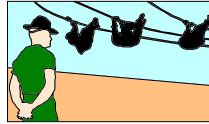
2) The opera-singing chef who delivered the meals one night.

1) Just about everything during the joint meeting with the Nudist Toastmasters Club.

Who Does What?

Sergeant-At-Arms: The Sergeant-At-Arms is the seventh-ranking officer of the club. His or her job responsibilities include setting up the meeting room, lectern, flag, and back table; maintaining club equipment in working order, maintaining adequate levels of supplies, and attending Board and District level meetings.

Our current Sergeant-At-Arms is **Ashish Nayee**.



"Speech Boot Camp" at May 20, 2002 Meeting!

The May 20, 2002 meeting will be a special "Speech Boot Camp" organized by **Elliott Wilcox, ATM**. The meeting will include speeches on all aspects of public speaking.

In addition to being a refresher for experienced Toastmasters, the Boot Camp is also an introduction to the art of public speaking to new and prospective Toastmasters! So invite your friends and colleagues to the meeting—a perfect introduction to the Toastmasters educational experience!

Don't Forget the Last Word!

Every Conquerors' meeting is adjourned to the "Last Word"—cocktails or coffee and conviviality. No ah counter, no grammarian, good conversation, and good-looking Toastmasters—join us!



Give Us Your Comments, Questions, and Submissions!

This is your newsletter! If you have any comments or questions about anything appearing in the newsletter, or wish to submit an item or article for publication, please contact:

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