



NEWSLETTER

FIRST STREET SPEAKERS

ISSUE 1: 02/2019

CLUB INFO

FIRST STREET SPEAKERS

Club #854912, District 101
3850 N 1st Street
San Jose, CA 95134

EVERY THURSDAY

12:00 PM—1:00 PM

Follow us on Facebook at First
Street Speakers Toastmasters
www.facebook.com/fsstm

OFFICERS

President: Joseph Kim
VP Education: Toluwa Odemuyiwa
VP Membership: Victoria McQuarrie
VP Public Relations: Nancy Lucid
Secretary: Jane Shinn
Treasurer: Alyson King
Sergeant at Arms: Shinjae Yoo

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Smedley Award
5 new members by September

The Lucky 7
All 7 club officers trained in first training
period of the term

Early Achiever Award
5 points earned toward Distinguished
status before October 31st

New Member Award
5 more new members before end of term

EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

Alyson King—ACB, ALB
Joseph Kim—EC2
Maria Zaitchenko—VC1
Michelle Oblena—LD1
Nancy Lucid—IP1
Shinjae Yoo—PM1
Toluwa Odemuyiwa—DL3
Victoria McQuarry—DL1

THIS PAST TERM...

We are on track to become a Presidents Distinguished Club this year! This is the highest award that a club can attain in Toastmasters.

During the **Fall Fusion District Event** in October, Alyson King won the first place spot for the Table Topics Competition. The question for the contestants was: "If you were given a million dollars to start a charity, what charity would you create and how would you use the funds in a one-year timeframe?" After the competition, more attendees were invited to answer the question, with the obvious advantage of having heard the contestants' answers and knowing the question before getting up to the stage. Even so, this was a formidable challenge given the size of the audience! Our own Nancy Lucid took up the challenge and did a fantastic job describing her public gardening program!

FEATURES



Our "Holiday Toast" auction party in December 2018 raised \$150 for the club

WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT OUR TOASTMASTERS WEEKLY MEETINGS?

On January 31st, Nancy Lucid, our VP of Public Relations, asked our club that question. Here is what you all said:

- a safe space to practice speaking
- fellowship, community, making friends
- good snacks
- a weekly opportunity for self-expression, creativity, and validation
- a positive feedback loop
- laughter, humor, and fun
- being part of the teamwork to setup and run meetings
- we learn things!

Our club was chartered in January of 2006 by Srinivas R. Achanta, CTM who became a Toastmaster in 2001. Srinivas started his Toastmasters adventure in the Steinbeck Toastmasters club in Salinas. There he entered speech competitions early on, using the added pressure of speaking before a large group of strangers to enhance his skill set. Srinivas was (and still is) an IT employee at Actel Corporation, a producer of FPGA semiconductors then located in Mountain View. After several years in his home club he realized he wanted to bring the benefits of Toastmasters to Actel. Director of Actel Human Resources, Carl Cheney, agreed with him and together they launched **Actel Flashmasters**.

The club chartered with 25 members and I joined the club the second term of that year. So while I am not a charter member, I am the oldest remaining member of the club. The club started strong with solid members and capable officers but has seen it's share of changes in it's 13 year journey. Before 2010, Actel relocated the campus to the current First Street location. Microsemi Corporation then acquired Actel in 2010 which not only catalyzed a club name change, and we became **Microsemi Masters**, but also affected our club



size and strength. The acquisition hit our club roster hard due to subsequent downsizing, resulting in more than a year of low or no attendance meetings. The District stepped in to offer support and sent us Stan Ng, our club coach. Stan helped breathe new life into the club. He became a member, attending our weekly meetings where he encouraged membership-building activities and Toastmaster best practices. We became an open club, accepting members outside the company, to bolster our ranks and this made a big difference. Now we needed a new name to reflect our non-corporate identity. In the club-naming contest, Debbie Chuang came up with the winning name and we became **First Street Speakers**.

I've served several officer roles over the years, but I have to say I've never been so proud or excited as I have been this year with our current slate of officers. They just keep adding value with all their contributions. Our educational goal achievements are exemplary and our social media presence has really taken off. Guests keep giving us feedback that we are uniquely organized and fun. There is a new level of energy and enthusiasm in the meetings driving us toward never-seen-before levels of accomplishment! I am honored to be a First Street Speaker today as we continue to make club history.

A TOASTMASTERS QUIZ by Nancy Lucid

1. When was Toastmasters founded?
 - a. 1941
 - b. 1973
 - c. 1924
2. Who founded Toastmasters?
 - a. Henry Ford
 - b. Ralph Smedley
 - c. Dale Carnegie
3. When did women first join Toastmasters?
 - a. 1941
 - b. 1973
 - c. 1924
4. When did Toastmasters open its own office and hire a full-time director?
 - a. 1941
 - b. 1973
 - c. 1924
5. How many languages is Toastmasters' materials published in?
 - a. 1
 - b. 4
 - c. 9
6. Which continents have Toastmasters clubs?
 - a. North America only
 - b. North and South America and Asia
 - c. North and South America and Asia, Europe, Africa, and Australia

Answers: 1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (b) 4. (a) 5. (c) 6. (c)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Club/Area Contest

Club evaluation contest is on 2/21 and International contest is on 2/28. Please email Joseph or Toluwa to participate as a contestant or other roles. Also, come support the winners at the Area level contest on March 14, as they compete in the area-level contest! More information coming soon!

Club Dues Renewal

Deadline is March 31st. Please contact Alyson for more information.

District 101 Annual Conference

May 18, 2019 @ Biltmore Hotel
Please visit <https://d101tm.org/conference/> for more details