

TEAMWORK

Member Spotlight

Michael Yee (CTM & CL)



Michael Yee, is one of our charter members. He works at Cal State San Marcos as Auxiliary Systems Lead within the Instructional and Information Technology Services. He does technical analysis (adapting software to business needs) and programming of computer systems and software, including developing new systems

and database programming. He speaks at occasional public meetings.

Busy with work, family, and TM, Michael is also the **President of the Chinese Historical Society and Museum** in downtown San Diego. His Toastmaster experience has served him well in his service to the community. Michael recently was invited to speak before a grant review panel in Sacramento. The conference room in the State Supreme Court where he spoke sat 200 people and he had only 5 minutes to present the association's case for funding "The Asian Gates" project. Michael said, "From Toastmasters, I was able to plan out my speech, speak comfortably, toss in a couple of jokes, and finish with polish before the timer went off. It was embarrassing for other speakers who ran over and the timer buzzed them off." He has also spoken on Channel 7/39 about the Chinese Museum and the Asian Pacific Historic District.

Although Michael practiced his "Asian Gates: Good for the Gaslamp" speech at Twin Oaks, his favorite speech was his second, "Joy of Soccer." Talking about his kids' soccer involvement and his coaching "brought out emotions in me for my kids that kept me going." Michael is currently working on his ATM-Bronze in Persuasive Speaking and has three more speeches to go.

Announcing a Speech Marathon!

Coming in May to the Twin Oaks Toastmasters—our first ever speech marathon! Although we are still in the planning stages, we anticipate a fun filled day of interesting speeches, evaluations, and entertainment. All TMs are invited to speak. This is a perfect opportunity to schedule some of those longer ATM and CL speeches. And of course it's ideal for working toward your CTM. Not only will you have the opportunity to speak under an alternative meeting format, but we will be using one of the larger rooms at the University of Phoenix. So start your training now so you'll be ready for the speaking challenge!



President's Tip -- Yvonne Devine (ATM-S)



The "Toastmaster's" Audience

A Toastmasters' audience is unique in that "it" is our practice forum. We use the audience more as a group before which to hone our skills than to entertain with our brilliance and wit. (Of course, when we are brilliant, it is even better!) In addition to participating as prepared speakers, each time we speak as

a functionary, evaluator, or one present. in Table Topics, we acknowledge the TM or TTM; however, we are then addressing the audience. We should face the audience, make sure the timer is within our eyesight, and apply eye contact (3-5 seconds) to individuals in all parts of the room. It is easy to address the person who asked us to speak—our goal is to turn our skills to every-

TIP - Evaluators, while you should absolutely address the person you are evaluating, you too, should address your comments to the entire group and not focus your eye contact and body position solely on the person you are evaluating. For example, "Mr./Madam TM, Fellow Toastmasters, John....I enjoyedJohn used eye contact...etc."

DID YOU KNOW?

"Workflow of a Twin Oaks Toastmasters Meeting" is an excellent resource on our website that details the way our meetings run.

Twin Oaks Toastmasters was formed in 1999. Most of the members knew one another and were associated with Cal State San Marcos. Twin Oaks Toastmasters have not always met in their current location. They met for a time at the CSUSM "Ranch," a retirement home, and at a health clinic. We have five past presidents in our current club: Don Larson (CTM & CL), Loren Bailey (CTM & CL), Tanis Brown (CTM & CL), Sassan Haghgoo (CTM), and Bridgette Keene (CTM).

OUR AWARD WINNING TM'S

Recently ribbons were awarded to...

Best Speaker: Didi Vergados, Maria Delores Chadley, Cy Chadley

Best Table Topics: Cy Chadley, Monique Cordeau, Yvonne Devine (ATM-S), Jennifer Helgren

Best Evaluator: Tanis Brown (CTM & CL), Nancy Bennett, Jennifer Helgren



UPCOMING EVENTS



Yvonne Devine (ATM-S), President of Twin Oaks Toastmasters, will compete in the Area Speech Contest April 2, 2005. Look for details on time and place soon. Let's all plan to attend to learn about speech contests and cheer her on!