

Fellow Toastmasters,

I was pleased to see the top-three district officers at the Eastern Davison Speech Contest in Syracuse last week (10/13). I individually complemented them for being there and later on once again thanked them via a personal e-mail, for attending the contest.

I believe that the presence of the top-three district officers (lovingly referred to as the “trio” in D-65) is important and necessary for a division-level contest event, in order to support the division, boost the morale as well as in complementing the speech contestants.

The eastern division contest was attended by some 60 Toastmasters. Although this was a good attendance number, everything possible needs to be done in improving future eastern division attendance numbers, so that more toastmasters can participate, more toastmasters can gain benefits and more toastmasters can enjoy the contest event.

I also witness leadership in-action when the Lt. Gov. of Education and Training, Kate Olsen DTM, publically recognized and acknowledge the organizer of the event - Toastmaster Charulata Chawan (the current Area 12 Governor and member of Orange Orators TM Club) for her efforts and hard work. For all practical purposes, the Area Governor single-handedly planned, organized and executed the eastern division contest event. Acknowledging, recognizing and thanking a fellow Toastmasters who steps up to-the-plate and takes up the challenge is not only gratifying to witness but also a pleasure to participate in such an event.

I have one suggestion for the “trio” in attending future similar events. Please make sure that the “host” of the event. the presiding officer, is the Eastern Division Governor, in this instance. He needs to be called upon to participate in the distribution the award trophies and certificates, including participating in the photo ops. Also it is the responsibility of the division governor to formally close the contest event by thanking everyone who attended the contest as well as any individual[s] that he would have liked to thank and/or acknowledge, for making the contest a success. This opportunity was somehow missed out.

Once again, I was pleased to see the district leadership in-action and this is my way of informing the rest of the district Toastmasters of their fine performances.

Best regards,

Sam Mehta, DTM, PDG  
Syracuse, NY  
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