

Timeline



1962: Dedication of new World Headquarters building in Santa Ana, California.

- October 1924 The first meeting of the Number One Toastmasters Club in Santa Ana, California.
- January 1926 The second Toastmasters club is chartered in Anaheim, California.
- August 1927 Representatives of five Santa Ana Toastmasters clubs plan the formation of a Federation of Toastmasters Clubs.
- October 1928 The first manual for Toastmasters clubs is copyrighted by Ralph Smedley.
- October 1930 The name Toastmasters International is adopted and officers are elected.
- December 1930 Publication of *The Gavel*, the first Toastmasters newsletter.
- December 1932 Toastmasters International is incorporated.
- January 1933 First Toastmasters club outside of California is established in Seattle, Washington.
- April 1933 The first *Toastmaster* magazine is published.
- July 1935 District organization is instituted, starting with District 1 of Southern California.
- October 1935 First Toastmasters club outside the United States is chartered in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
- January 1938 Charter No. 100 is presented to the Century Toastmasters Club in Santa Ana, California.
- August 1938 Inter-Club Speech Contest started. First winner: Henry Wiens of Reedley, California.
- July 1946 District 18 of Scotland becomes the first district organized outside the United States.
- February 1948 First Toastmasters International Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are published.
- August 1950 The first "Certificate of Achievement" is issued for the new advanced course, *Beyond Basic Training*.
- June 1951 First regional conference is held in Des Moines, Iowa.
- October 1962 Dedication of new World Headquarters building in Santa Ana, California.
- November 1964 The first Able Toastmaster (ATM) award is issued.
- August 1968 The first Competent Toastmaster (CTM) award is issued for completing the manual *Basic Training for Toastmasters*.
- August 1969 The *Communication and Leadership Program* manual is introduced at the International Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.
- March 1970 The first Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award is issued.
- August 1973 Membership opens to women.
- January 1978 The multi-manual Advanced Communication and Leadership Program is introduced.
- April 1979 The first two Success/Leadership programs are introduced.
- November 1981 The Accredited Speaker Program begins.
- October 1982 Membership reaches 100,000.
- July 1984 The *Communication and Leadership Program* manual is revised, and two new educational awards are introduced: the Able Toastmaster Bronze (ATM-B) and Able Toastmaster Silver (ATM-S).

- April 1989 Membership reaches 150,000.
- July 1989 The Distinguished Club Program, Distinguished Area Program and Distinguished Division Program are introduced.
- June 1990 World Headquarters moves to Rancho Santa Margarita, California.
- January 1993 Toastmasters International charts its 8,000th club.
- January 1997 The revised *Communication and Leadership Program* manual is introduced.
- July 1997 An improved two-track educational recognition system begins. The communication track includes the CTM, Advanced Toastmaster Bronze, Advanced Toastmaster Silver and Advanced Toastmaster Gold awards. The leadership track includes the Competent Leader and Advanced Leader awards. Requirements for the DTM award also change.
- July 1999 The 10-goal Distinguished Club Program is introduced.
- July 2001 Executive Director Terrence McCann retires and is replaced by Donna Groh.
- June 2004 Toastmasters International charts its 10,000th club. Membership reaches 200,000.
- January 2006 The *Competent Leadership* manual is introduced.
- July 2006 Award titles in the communication track are renamed, and the leadership track is strengthened and expanded to include the Competent Leader, Advanced Leader Bronze and Advanced Leader Silver awards.
- September 2007 Redesigned member and public Web sites debut.
- August 2008 Executive Director Donna H. Groh resigns and is replaced by Daniel Rex.